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November 2, 2022

**IMPORTANT NOTICE OF A HEALTH ADVISORY ISSUED BY THE
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (“CDC”) REGARDING
NONTUBERCULOUS *MYCOBACTERIA* (“NTM”) INFECTIONS**

Dear Licensee:

The Maine Board of Dental Practice (“the Board”) is sending this important notice to inform you of an official health advisory issued by the CDC on October 31, 2022, regarding reported outbreaks of nontuberculous *Mycobacteria* (“NTM”) infections that have occurred in pediatric dental practice settings. The purpose of the advisory is to highlight for all dental professionals the importance of maintaining and monitoring dental waterlines in accordance with the CDC guidelines on infection control in dental settings. The CDC’s full advisory can be accessed online at: <https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/2022/han00478.asp>.

The Board is also sharing this important notice as a reminder to all licensees of the infection control requirements outlined in Board Rules Chapter 12 “Practice Requirements.” The rule, in part, requires that all licensees utilize the CDC Guidelines for Infection Control in Dental Health-Care Settings (2003) when monitoring and maintaining dental waterlines, biofilm and water quality to ensure public protection for both patients and dental personnel.

Board Rules, Chapter 12 can be accessed online at: <https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/02/chaps02.htm#313> and the 2003 CDC Guidelines can be accessed online at: <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr5217.pdf>.

Please contact the Board’s office should you have any questions regarding this notice. Thank you.

Board Contact Information:

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