Position Statement Concerning

DENTAL WATERLINE PROTECTION

In pursuit of the stated goals of the American Backflow Prevention Association (ABPA) of protecting the quality and integrity of clean drinking water, the Board of Directors believes that a Position Statement regarding “Dental Waterline Protection” is essential.

To prevent contamination from entering the public potable water system, all actual or potential cross-connections must be either eliminated or protected. A cross-connection is defined as an actual or potential connection between a potable water supply and any other non-potable liquid, gas or substance.

It is the position of the ABPA that unprotected cross-connections may be present in dental offices. Therefore, in order to ensure clean drinking water, it is the position of the ABPA that all actual or potential cross-connections either be eliminated or protected with the appropriate means of protection commensurate with the degree of hazard, and as required by the authority having jurisdiction.

Approved by the ABPA Board of Directors: April 29, 1998 – Tempe, Arizona
Reapproved: May 19, 2010 – New Orleans, Louisiana
Reapproved: May 16, 2015 – Nashville, Tennessee