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Dental Protection advises dentists not to slam the surgery door

Although it may be a normal territorial response to act defensively when a stranger invades your personal space, there are a surprisingly large number of people who can do exactly that in a dental practice. The latest issue of *Riskwise UK* lists nineteen different bodies that can visit a dental practice and look around.

'You can't come bursting in here' is the title of an article published this month by Dental Protection in their publication for dental members. In addition to listing those who may come knocking at the surgery door the article explains how to respond and what to do if the practice fails an inspection.

Following on from an earlier press briefing when he declared the dental controllers to be out of control, Kevin Lewis, Dental Director commented; 'Dental Protection considers that UK dentists are unreasonably over-regulated. Some of the budget allocated to such activity could usefully be diverted to funding front-line services. Until then, rather than barring their way, it is quite a good idea to recognise the authority of the relevant organisations who can inspect a dental practice and keep in mind the possibility of such a visit.'

Ends

Media contact

David Croser
Dental Protection
33 Cavendish Square
London W1G 0PS

T: 020 7399 1339 E: david.croser@mps.org.uk.

Notes for Editors

1. Dental Protection Limited (DPL) is an autonomous but wholly owned subsidiary of the Medical Protection Society (MPS), the world's largest professional indemnity organisation for doctors, dentists and other healthcare professionals. Dental Protection has over 55,000 dental members in 70 countries around the globe and it is the only UK based protection organisation to have this international scope. In the UK, 70% of dentists are members.
2. MPS is not an insurance company. All benefits of membership are discretionary as set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association.
3. Web address **www.dentalprotection.org**