

GUIDELINES FOR PROVIDING DENTAL CARE DURING THE CURRENT COVID-19 PANDEMIC

FRONT DESK

All staff members should have their temperatures taken upon arriving at work and a record maintained at the dental office.

Pre-screen every patient for COVID-19 risk factors using a comprehensive questionnaire until accurate testing is available.

Record body temperatures for every patient when they arrive for their appointment.

Social distancing will be observed in the dental offices and waiting areas. To help adequate distancing, it is strongly recommended to limit one patient per dental care provider.

Stagger patient appointments to minimize patient-to-patient contact.

Schedule patients ensuring that sufficient time is allocated for appropriate disinfection between patients as recommended in the ADA toolkit.

Patients should come alone for appointments (except where necessary for interpreters, guardians of minors, and others needing assistance).

Patients reporting or exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms are to be advised to contact their primary care physician immediately and placed in quarantine as appropriate.

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TEAM

All dental personnel shall use appropriate PPE as dictated by the procedure performed, consistent with guidelines from the CDC and the American Dental Association, including masks, face shields, fluid-resistant gowns and hair cover if applicable.

All surfaces must be disinfected between patients in accordance with the ADA guidelines.

Staff members who report or exhibit any COVID-19 symptoms should self-quarantine and contact their primary care physician immediately and follow their advice. If found to be positive, the dental office should follow the Ohio Department of Health protocol.

It is recommended that patients use a pre-procedure mouth rinse immediately before beginning a procedure

Special care should be taken for patients with higher risk (pre-existing comorbidities) or immunocompromised individuals.

Patients reporting or exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms are to be advised to contact their primary care physician immediately and placed in quarantine as appropriate.

Dental providers should use high volume evacuators and isolation strategies including rubber dams when appropriate to limit exposure to aerosols.

Dentists should secure COVID-19 test reports where available for patients and staff.