

COVID-19 UPDATE: ADA PPE and Screening Protocols Forthcoming(ASAP), ND Medicaid COVID-19 Temporary Teledentistry Policy, NDDA Emergency PPE Contact, and Tentative Reopening Resources

In this update we will be covering the following items which will be discussed at length below:

1. ADA PPE and Screening Protocols Forthcoming (ASAP)
2. ND Medicaid COVID-19 Temporary Teledentistry Policy
3. NDDA Member Emergency PPE Contact through State of North Dakota
4. NDDA Practice Reopening FAQ and Next Steps Forthcoming (Early Next Week)
5. Business and Federal/State Resource Directories
6. ADA/NDDA/CDC/OSHA Guidance, Links and Webinars

If you missed our update last Friday on April 10, 2020 and would like to see it, please click [here](#).

ADA PPE and Screening Protocols Forthcoming (ASAP)

The ADA has convened an Advisory Task Force on Dental Practice Reopening and Recovery. **We believe the ADA Task Force could complete its phase one work as soon as today or by Monday on the PPE and screening protocols.** Once the ADA completes this work, they will come out with clear interim PPE and screening guidance on how to safely re-engage dental practices in elective care. **We would strongly recommend dental practices wait for these protocols and guidance when developing patient screening policies and PPE guidelines for their practices.**

ND Medicaid COVID-19 Temporary Teledentistry Policy

To address COVID-19 concerns, ND Medicaid is issuing this temporary teledentistry policy to provide flexibility for members and providers to receive and deliver services. **This policy covers services rendered on dates of service that fall between March 20, 2020 and the date the national emergency, as authorized in Title V of the Stafford Act, is declared over.** The North Dakota Medicaid temporary teledentistry policy is posted online, please click [here](#).

[ND Medicaid Teledentistry – COVID-19 Temporary Policy](#)

The NDDA would like to thank all members working to provide remote care and access to North Dakota Medicaid patients at this time.

NDDA Member Emergency PPE Contact through State of North Dakota

NDDA member dentists should call 701-328-0707, the NDDoH Operation Center, for assistance coordinating with regional LPH PPE fit testing sites. The NDDoH Operation Center will reach out to the regional LPH fit tester to determine capacity. If they do not have the capacity, the DOC will work to have the request for assistance filled. **NDDA member dentists are able, as essential health care providers, to order PPE supplies, to include N95 respirators, from the ND state medical cache for dental emergency services only.** You will need to sign up to order supplies at <http://hanassets.nd.gov/>. When ordering, you will need to

identify your office's anticipated need for a 2-week period and will also need to indicate the number of employees who are providing direct care for emergency services on the Customer Note section at the very end of the online order form. All information is required. **Please review the North Dakota State Dental PPE Ordering document in its entirety prior to ordering.**

NDDA Practice Reopening FAQs and Next Steps Forthcoming (Early Next Week)

The NDDA will be working through the weekend and next week to provide you with directories around "Next Steps" and "FAQs" surrounding the reopening of dental offices and the provision of safe and healthy dental care in our state. **To be clear, the NDDA will not offer any specific guidance, but will be distributing content, presentations, resources and guidance from the highest authorities available. The strategic and controlled opening of each individual dental office will rest with the clinical judgment of each individual clinician after reviewing the content, presentations, resources and guidance provided from the NDDA.**

After reviewing all of the current content and judiciously checking these sources, the NDDA strongly recommends each clinician follow their best clinical judgment. Please be patient as we put together "FAQs" and "Next Steps" to help ensure you are reviewing and thinking about all of the most recent, substantive and applicable content for the near future decisions you will be making for your patients, your staff and your practice.

Business and Federal/State Agency Resource Directories

[Business Resource Directory](#)

[Federal and State Agency Resource Directory](#)

We would encourage you to revisit many of the resources listed in our Business and Federal/State Agency Resource Directories for potential updates on:

- proper PPE,
- health and safety guidelines,
- liability concerns,
- supply chain issues,
- business relief and exposure questions, and
- many other areas.

Please keep in mind that while we are navigating these resources, we are seeing multiple and daily updates as well as changes to the guidance. Additional to note, some of the guidance can be contradictory to other firms or previous guidance. This is a rapidly changing situation and we encourage all member dentists to please **diligently check these sources and guidance to ensure they are following the most current guidance and applying it to their specific individual business situation.**

ADA/NDDA/CDC/OSHA Guidance, Links and Webinars

In the next 3-5 business days the NDDA expects to see an extreme amount of new and additional guidance, protocols and next steps surrounding the healthy and safe provision of any dental care with the reopening of dental offices. It is imperative that NDDA members be judiciously checking the appropriate authorities for these updates. We will do our best to keep you informed of any new guidance, updates or changes we see from these authorities, but the responsibility sits with every dentist to keep themselves informed and up to date of these changes.

[ADA COVID-19 Updates](#)

[NDDA webpage](#)

[CDC webpage](#)

[OSHA webpage](#)

Please research and review all of these and all other health and safety authorities to ensure you are complying with the most recent health and safety practice guidelines/recommendations and adhering to the highest standards of care.