

COVID-19 UPDATE: ADA Interim PPE Guidelines and ADA Guidance on if Staff Tests Positive for COVID-19

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

1. [ADA Interim PPE Guidelines](#)
2. [ADA - What to Do if Someone on Your Staff Tests Positive for COVID-19](#)

If you missed our update last Friday on April 17, 2020 and would like to see it, please click [here](#). The list below covers the topics from last Friday.

1. ND Medicaid COVID-19 Temporary Teledentistry Policy
2. NDDA Member Emergency PPE Contact through State of North Dakota
3. Business and Federal/State Resource Directories
4. ADA/NDDA/CDC/OSHA Guidance, Links and Webinars

ADA Interim PPE Guidelines

[ADA Interim Mask and Face Shield Guidelines](#)

[ADA Understanding Mask Types](#)

The ADA has convened an Advisory Task Force on Dental Practice Reopening and Recovery. Included as an attachment and link above are the ADA Interim Mask and Face Shield Guidelines and ADA Understanding Mask Types. **Any combination of PPE outlined in the documents is appropriate for care to patients without signs/symptoms of COVID-19.** The NDDA strongly recommends all dental offices providing any dental care to review these documents prior to provision of that care. **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 from the NDDA.** If at any point, any clinician feels it is best to limit or close their practice, the NDDA would strongly recommend the clinician follow their best clinical judgment.

To be clear, at no point should any dentist provide any care to any COVID-19 positive or suspected positive patient. If there is any indication a patient could be or is COVID-19 positive, that individual would be directed to local public health authorities and the appropriate specialized medical personnel. **We have guidance forthcoming this week on the navigation of positive or suspected COVID-19 positive patients.** If dental care would be emergent or urgent that care to a COVID-19 positive or suspected positive patient would be provided by an OMS or other dentist with hospital privileges in a negative pressure setting along with other heightened protocols. We have regional teams selected and prepared to provide care for any COVID-19 positive or suspected positive patient.

ADA - What to Do if Someone on Your Staff Tests Positive for COVID-19

[What to Do if Someone on Your Staff Tests Positive for COVID-19](#)

Finding out that you or a member of your team has tested positive for COVID-19 can be a cause for concern on many levels. While your first concern will always be for the individual affected, as the practice owner or manager, you also have to be concerned about the rest of the staff and any patients that might have had contact with the healthcare provider with the positive diagnosis. This provided document and steps included will help guide you through what you should do if someone in your practice tests positive for COVID-19.