

March 25, 2020 - COVID-19 UPDATE: Update from NDDA President, Dr. Brad Anderson

Good morning NDDA members, I have quite a few things to go over in today's update but I would like to start off by talking about the stress we are all under and mental health. I wish I had a crystal ball so I could tell you when this is all going to be over but I don't. I think it is important that we can all acknowledge and understand the huge amount of stress this is putting on all of us. I do not have a great way to deal with it, however the CDC does have a page dedicated to mental health. I am linking that page here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/managing-stress-anxiety.html>

The biggest thing I can tell you all is that we are in this together. The people at the CDC have put together far more resources than I could on the topic, however if anyone is concerned or just needs someone to talk to and you don't have anyone please feel free to reach out to me. My email is brad.andersondds@gmail.com. My cell is 701-306-1742.

On a different note for those of you who did not see the update last week this is a reminder, we talked with Harold Diers and they confirmed that for the most part our professional protector and property plans do not have any coverage for shutdowns caused by health crises. There is a chance your business overhead insurance will provide some coverage but only if you get sick.

A reminder, the ADA has guidelines out regarding what is an emergency, what is urgent, and what is elective dental care. The urgent category is where the judgement calls are going to come into effect. I can't tell you what to do but I am linking their document here.

https://success.ada.org/~media/CPS/Files/Open%20Files/ADA_COVID19_Dental_Emergency_DDS.pdf?utm_source=adaorg&utm_medium=covid-resources-lp&utm_content=cv-pm-emerg-def&utm_campaign=covid-19&ga=2.145847735.201339666.1585100327-591058201.1555296795

We have reports that some individual dental offices have been contacted by health clinics asking for donations of spare PPE. At this point this is going to be a judgement call to whomever gets contacted. We have also had reports that some of those clinics, at least as of yesterday, were still doing elective procedures. I do not know if this is still the case. I have heard the Fargo hospitals and clinics were not as of the beginning of the week. We are working on a NDDA centralized statewide donation campaign for PPE directed where it is most needed and hope to have more details soon.

Lastly I just want to mention again that both the [NDDA](#) and the [ADA](#) have pages on their websites specifically to compile information on the response to the coronavirus. You can go to those pages and find a compilation of all the information each group has put out. There are also links to webinars that contain a ton of useful information on a variety of topics.

Brad Anderson, President NDDA