

5 April 2020

New! Continuing Education Opportunities

[Smiles for Life](#)

[DentaQuest](#)

Upcoming Webinars

NNOHA: Bouncing Back from Burnout

Tuesday, April 7 at 3:30 PM EST

Register [here](#)

DentaQuest Teledentistry: Providing Alternative Care During a Public Health Crisis

Wednesday, April 8 at 1:00 PM EST

Register [here](#)

NACHC presents Flattening the COVID-19 Curve: Latest Update

Thursdays in April at 1:00 PM EST

No registration needed, active link will be available [here](#)

**Southern Arizona Oral Health Coalition Webinar Series
Sponsored by the Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation**

Part 1: Practical aspects and examples of teledentistry

Wednesday, April 8th at 3 PM

Register [here](#)

Part 2a: The role of SDF in a drill-less world

Thursday April 9th at 3:00 PM

Register [here](#)

Part 2b: Optional Deeper Dive into SDF and Glass Ionomer

Thursday April 9th at 4:15 PM

Register [here](#)

Teledentistry Update! Smiles for Children (Virginia's Medicaid dental program) is preparing to reimburse for teledentistry services, based on recently released [ADA guidance](#). This will enable providers to triage patients and conduct-problem focused evaluations while limiting office visits. For now, please refer to resources shared on Virginia Health Catalyst's [COVID-19 Resource Hub!](#)

Community Resources

- [Virginia Safety Net Clinics - Dental Emergencies and COVID19 Testing](#)
 - A “living list” of safety net clinics in Virginia that are providing emergency dental care and/or COVID-19 testing
 - Please remember to CALL AHEAD before arriving at the clinic to confirm availability and complete screening processes
- [‘Citizen Science’ Initiative](#) -- UCSF researchers seeking any adult with a smartphone to download this app and assist with real-time epidemiology of COVID-19
- [Sign up to volunteer](#) with the Virginia Medical Reserve Corps
- Families USA is leveraging their [storytelling program](#) to ensure that the media, members of Congress, and our own policy experts understand how people are affected by health coverage and access to care issues during the COVID-19 crisis. To submit your story, please use this [collection form](#)

Clinical guidance

- CDC is providing a [PPE burn rate calculator](#)
- Face shields that can be comfortably used with loupes and light
 - <https://opdop.com/opdop-ii>
- Possible air cleaning options for the dental office
 - [Surgically Clean Air](#)
 - [Airocide](#)
- Remember: many of traditions standard precautions protect against blood borne pathogens
 - COVID-19 is spread via droplets therefore recommendations and PPE required to safely and effectively treat dental patients may be different
 - Plan for [transmission based precautions](#) when preparing for dental treatment
- Teledentistry is becoming an increasingly common way to provide care to our patients while maintaining social distancing recommendations
 - General [workflow](#)
 - ADA Interim Guidance on Teledentistry [Coding and Billing](#) during COVID-19
 - Available [platforms](#)

- Synchronous [patient assessment](#) guidance
- ADA Interim Guidance for [Minimizing Risk of COVID-19 Transmission](#)
- Treatment Guidance Decision Trees
 - [Virginia Health Catalyst](#)
 - [ADA](#)
- Summary of [informal clinical guidance](#)
- List of potential [roles for dental team](#) outside of dental center during COVID-19

Summary of informal clinical guidance

Before Work:

- Remove all jewelry and watches
- No nail polish
- Wear clean clothes into work and bring scrubs / "work clothes" to change into
 - Consider designating a specific pair of shoes for "work" and leave at the office each day
 - Bring a washable bag as well for your used scrubs at the end of the day
- Lunch/snacks in disposable bag

During work:

- Sanitize phone, badges, glasses, loupes, workstation regularly throughout the day, especially after contact (e.g., patient, provider, team member)
- Consider propping open as many doors as possible to avoid unnecessary contact
- Make use of barriers / barrier tape whenever possible
- Regular hand hygiene
 - Remember to also *moisturize* as regular hand hygiene may dry your hands out
- Hand hygiene
 - Before and after each patient
 - When touching new surfaces
- No handshakes or high-fives
- Low aerosol production procedures whenever possible to treat emergencies
 - SDF or ART when appropriate
 - Utilize of HVE in conjunction with rubber dam or consider use of [dental isolation system](#) when aerosol production is necessary
- Utilization of faceshield in addition to surgical mask
 - If patient is suspected or confirmed COVID-19 (+) utilization of N-95 respirator
- Wear head covering (e.g., scrub cap, bouffant scrub cap) to protect hair from aerosols
 - Beard covers for providers with facial hair
- Wear shoe covers if possible

- Minimize time in operatories and reuse of operatories during the day
 - E.g., consider designation of one operator for surgical extraction and do not reuse for the remainder of the day
 - Leave used operatories vacant for at least **72 hours** following [disinfection](#) after procedures
- If you do not have the necessary equipment or PPE, reconsider performing the procedure and try to connect the patient with an office that is better equipped

After Work:

- Put scrubs in washable bag and wear clean clothing home
- Wipe down work shoes or leave at work if possible
- Sanitize phone, ID, glasses, and other personal belongings
- Once home shower at home immediately
- Wash scrubs / "work clothes" at home
- Wash water bottle and/or tupperware from snacks

Dental staff utilization in other areas of CHC

Adapted from Dr. Bozzetti at the Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center in Oregon and other contributors on NNOHA Listserve.

Roles in other areas of CHC outside of dental center/clinic

60 and older welfare check	Call dental patients 60 and older and do a "welfare check-in" Refer to social worker if they need support/resources
Front desk	Aid in answering calls and training on the phone for medical and dental Greet / coordinate patients arrival to medical centers
Infection control	Wiping down exam rooms and shared public spaces with appropriate disinfectants, and change barriers as needed and/or frequently as possible
COVID-19 Drive-Thru Testing	Providing assistance at off-site Drive-Thru COVID-19 testing. Roles include traffic controller, runner, greeter, check-in, vitals-taker, or specimen collector. PPE is required for most roles and will be provided
Generate recall / recare lists	Organize list of patients that will require new appointment once dental center returns to regular operations
Deactivate paper charts	For those clinics that still have paper charts, follow the process to deactivate the chart and ready it for storage/destruction
Pharmacy runner, cashier (medical)	Cashier - all prescriptions computerized, would scan the prescription barcode to find cost, collect cash/check/card payment. Patients may ask if Rx is

	<p>ready so would need to type name into POS system and determine the status of the order.</p> <p>Runner - may be asked to deliver packages to patients waiting in parking lot.</p>
Returned Mail project	Returned mail to be distributed to dental clinics for staff to open, contact patient and update mailing address. Likely to go out to clinics on Fri/Mon.
Sign patients up for telehealth/dent services	Call patients from the dental schedules in past days/months, identify those who are also medical patients, and offer them to sign up for telehealth/dent services.
Chart review	Providers

Roles in CHC in dental center/clinic

Dental - Dentist	Dental team serving patients with urgent needs
Dental - Assistant	Dental team serving patients with urgent needs
Dental - DCC	Dental team serving patients with urgent needs
Dental - Reception Closer	Dental team serving patients with urgent needs
Dental - Reception Opener	Dental team serving patients with urgent needs