



**Dr. Jeffrey P Fish, DDS**

# **COVID-19 Implementation Plan for Management and Treatment of Non-Emergent and Elective Dental Care**

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## **SECTION A: PLAN FOR PRIORITIZATION OF PROCEDURES**

The following patient conditions will be treated in phase 1 of elective care.

- Caries control
- Management of periodontal disease
- Management of endodontic needs including fabrication of crowns on endodontically treated teeth as indicated.
- Management of edentulous space's in the edentulous and partially edentulous patient as indicated to prevent worsening of malocclusion or bone atrophy.
- Management of malocclusion for new and existing patients.
- Management of diseased, fractured or impacted teeth.
- Treatment of temporal mandibular disorders. Management of pathology. Management of trauma.

The dental office of Jeffrey P Fish, DDS will employ clinical judgment and assess patient oral and overall health and risk to the patient if the procedure is delayed any further. Treatment will be based on clinical judgements and evaluating

- Patients Medical History
- Risk factors
- Geographic incidence of COVID-19 in your clinic's location.
- Previously cancelled and postponed cases due to the COVID pandemic
- Availability of PPE including N95 or KN95 masks, gowns, face shields and hair coverings
- Prioritization of patients with more urgent needs.
- Professional judgment to employ the lowest aerosol-generating armamentarium when delivering any type of restorative or hygiene care.
- Example: use hand scaling rather than ultrasonic scaling when appropriate. If ultrasonic scaling is required, it should be used in conjunction with high volume evacuation and will consider use of an assistant.
- For elderly patients with one or more diseases known to be associated with higher COVID-19 mortality and/or immunocompromised patients, it is recommended to use teledentistry consultation to assess the urgency of their dental condition prior to considering any treatment.

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## SECTION B: Infection Control, Engineering Controls, and Administrative Controls

The following general procedures have been implemented:

- Safety and OSHA training for COVID-19 related issues was conducted for all staff members on **May 6, 2020**.
- Computer keyboards will be covered with plastic wrap and changed regularly throughout the day.
- Scrubs will be changed after each patient visit and laundered with hot water 2 times per day.
- Face shields and N95 masks will be changed after each patient
- Hand sanitizer will be available for staff and patient use
- Handwashing protocols have been established
- All employees have participated in training via 3M videos and had N-95 fit testing performed **May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020**
- Employees will use N95 or KN95 masks for aerosol generating procedures and employ MDH and CDC PPE preservation methods whenever possible. Non-aerosol generating procedures can utilize a face shield and surgical mask.
- Licensed and non-licensed clinical staffs are required to complete a course in infection control every biennial cycle. **February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020 all staff were trained in Blood Borne Pathogen, Infection Control, and OSHA standards**
- Jeffrey P Fish DDS provide resources for infection control education for all staff, clinical and non-clinical.

The following PPE utilization per Minnesota Board of Dentistry, CDC and OSHA has been implemented for all staff:

- Nitrile gloves will be used and discarded after each patient
- Cloth scrub jackets will be worn and laundered after each use
- Hair will be covered with cloth surgical caps and laundered after each use
- N95 mask with ASTM Level 3 mask covering will be used. Level 3 masks will be discarded with each patient, N95 masks will be disinfected with UV light daily.
- Face shields will be used and disinfected between patients
- Proper donning and doffing will be practiced

The following Administrative Control Plan has been implemented:

- Patient appointments have been staggered in 15 minute increments to alleviate multiple patients in the reception area at one time. They will not enter the dental office waiting area until their appointed time.
- To keep the waiting area empty, patients will be advised that they cannot bring companions into the building during their appointment
- A tempered glass divider has been installed to create barrier between the waiting and administrative area.
- Patients will review and sign the COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency Dental Treatment Notice and Acknowledgement of Risk Form and COVID-19 Pandemic – Patient Disclosures Form. Any patient answering yes to a condition will be rescheduled to another day.
- All surfaces will be cleaned with Lysol disinfectant including pens used by patients
- Credit cards will be disinfected before their use by office staff.

- Hand sanitizer is available at patient's arrival.
- Patients will arrive wearing masks, or Jeffrey P Fish, DDS will provide cloth masks.
- Waiting room chairs are placed 6 feet apart to maintain social distancing.
- All toys, reading materials, and communal objects have been removed.
- On a regular schedule, all touchable surface areas will be sanitized with an approved surface cleaner.
- If visibly dirty, surfaces should be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.
- The business website, [jpfishdds.com](http://jpfishdds.com), has been updated to include a COVID-19 statement on the homepage and an additional COVID-19 page that includes access to this implementation plan, risk form and patient disclosure form. Informational links are also included.

The following controls have been implemented in the hygiene and dental operator areas:

- Each operator will be closed off utilizing curtains to contain any aerosol spray
- Hygienists or Dental Assistants will clean all surfaces after patient departs and prior to a new patient arrival.
- Hygienists will utilize an isolate mouthpiece to minimize aerosol during high vac suction
- Hygienists will cease using the Cavitron, and use scaling techniques

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## SECTION C: Risk Management

### Employee Risk

Jeffrey P Fish DDS will only treat suspected or confirmed COVID patients in the event of a life-threatening dental emergency and only if N95 is available. Treatment with teledentistry and medications may be necessary in the event it is not a life-threatening dental emergency. The following table describes the risks associated with treatment of patients with and without COVID-19.

	AREA	RISK MITIGATION
Healthy Patients	Non-treatment areas	Gloves, Coats, Level 3 mask
	Treatment area – non aerosol generating activity	Gloves, Coat, Level 3 mask, Face shield
	Treatment area – aerosol generating activity	Gloves, Coat, N95, Level 3 mask, Face shield
Patients with COVID-19	Non-treatment areas	Gloves, Coats, Level 3 mask
	Treatment area – non aerosol generating activity	Teledentistry where possible. Gloves, Coat, N95, Level 3 mask, Face shield
	Treatment area – aerosol generating activity	Teledentistry where possible. Gloves, Coat, N95, Level 3 mask, Face Shield

All employees will be given an active health screening to assess for signs and symptoms of COVID-19. This will include assessment for fever and symptoms associated with COVID infection as recommended by in CDC: Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with

Suspected or Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Healthcare Settings. These daily screenings must be maintained in a logbook. Staff will not work while sick, even if presenting with mild signs or symptoms. If during the workday they develop signs or symptoms of illness they will leave the office.

### **Patient Considerations**

All patients will have their temperature checked using a temporal thermometer upon entering the clinic. Patients will review and sign the COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency Dental Treatment Notice and Acknowledgement of Risk Form and COVID-19 Pandemic – Patient Disclosures Form. With exception of a dental emergency, any patient answering yes to a condition will be rescheduled to another day.

Jeffrey P Fish DDS will require patients and visitors to wear cloth coverings or facemasks and will provide to patients when needed if they do not present with one. Patients will be reminded of the mask policy when phoning to confirm patient appointments. Each patient must be informed that even with mitigation equipment and techniques there is risk of COVID transmission while receiving care in a dental setting and the procedure may be cancelled on short notice if the patient tests positive for or experiences symptoms of COVID-19. Patients will be provided a consent form

Patients rinse with a solution of 1-1.5% hydrogen peroxide for 1 minute prior to exams and procedures.

Social distancing and other infection prevention measures include:

- Chairs are spaced in reception areas to allow social distancing (6 feet apart) and wiped down with disinfectant in between patients.
- Appointments are staggered so that patients aren't checking in/out at the same time.
- Cloth barriers have been placed to close in operatory openings, to decrease the risk of aerosol into other areas of clinic.
- Masks will be worn at all times in clinic.

### **Assessment of Clinical Operatory**

The following table lists operatory, their use and risk mitigation strategies.

<b>OPERTORY</b>	<b>USE</b>	<b>RISK MITIGATION</b>
Chair #1	fixed or removable prost, aerosol generating procedures	Cloth barrier to contain aerosols, proper PPE
Chair #2		
Hygiene #1	dental hygiene (using hand scalers)	Cloth barrier to contain aerosols, proper PPE, isolate mouthpiece
Hygiene #2		

### **Community Considerations**

Dental professionals will continue to collaborate with peers and supply chain representatives to ensure adequate supply, including PPE, is present in order to provide care for non-emergent and elective procedures and surgeries.

In the event of another surge in COVID-19 cases, Jeffrey P Fish DDS will revert to treatment of urgent dental care only. This would allow PPE preservation from the dental community providing elective care. Patients with urgent needs will be treated as previously and patients with elective needs will be postponed in the event of another Peacetime Emergency in the future. Patients will be screened for urgent needs and prioritized based on need for treatment.

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## **SECTION D: Screening and Testing for Patients and Visitors**

The following general procedures have been implemented:

- Jeffrey P Fish will conduct screening and temperature check for couriers, delivery persons, and other visitors who enter the facility. Ill or febrile visitors are not allowed to enter the facility.
- All patients will undergo active screening for fever and symptoms of COVID-19, including measurement of body temperature.
- Patients, and any accompanying visitors, should come to the facility wearing a cloth face covering or facemask, or are provided one by the facility if needed.
- Patients will be considered potentially COVID-19 positive and Jeffrey P Fish DDS will take appropriate precautions when conducting aerosol-generating procedures, including use of N95 or KN95 masks, face shields, gowns.

Due to current lack of availability to dental clinic systems at this time, Jeffrey P Fish DDS will continue to monitor and follow all other universal precautions when treating patients and use PPE to protect against exposure.