

Public Announcement from the Nevada Oral Health Program

On March 24th, a memo from the Department of Health and Human Services was released to dental professionals in Nevada. A link to the letter can be found here:

<http://dpbh.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/dpbhnygov/content/Programs/OH/COVID19%20POLICY.LAW.REG%20CHANGE%20NOTICE%203%2024.20pdf.pdf>

Nevada dental professionals will be postponing routine dental treatment in continued alignment with Governor Sisolak's direction as set forth in Directive 010 until at least April 30, 2020.

Emergency care will still be provided in alignment with CDC COVID-19 infection control guidelines.

Dental care that you should have taken care of by a dentist at this time:

- Bleeding that doesn't stop
- Painful swelling in or around your mouth
- Pain in a tooth, teeth or jawbone
- Gum infection with pain or swelling
- After surgery treatment (dressing change, stitch removal)
- Broken or knocked out tooth
- Denture adjustment for people receiving radiation or other treatment for cancer
- Snipping or adjusting wire of braces that hurts your check or gums
- Biopsy of abnormal tissue

But before you go outside the safety of your home:

1. **Contact your regular dentist** and communicate your problem through:
 - Telephone conversation
 - FaceTime conversations or Skype
 - Facebook Messenger video chat
 - Google Hangouts video
 - Texting
 - Digital sharing of photo
2. **Be prepared** to answer questions
 - About fever (have a current temperature reading)
 - Dry cough
 - Trouble Breathing
3. **Accept** that in some cases, definitive care may not be safe to provide.
Your dentist will be able to provide care to alleviate pain, swelling or other urgent issue. However, current treatment options may be limited as many aerosolize COVID-19 and may not be available for the safety of all.
4. **Alternative:** A licensed dentist is ready to take your call 24/7 through Teledentistry.com. This service is provided **FREE** to Medicaid enrollees and is \$35 for those with private insurance. You can download the app on your smartphone, or you can call [888-588-3394](tel:888-588-3394) to be connected with a live representative and dentist. See the Teledentistry.com flyer for more information.

Please refer to the Nevada Oral Health Program website with any comments or concerns.

<http://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/OH/OH-Home/>