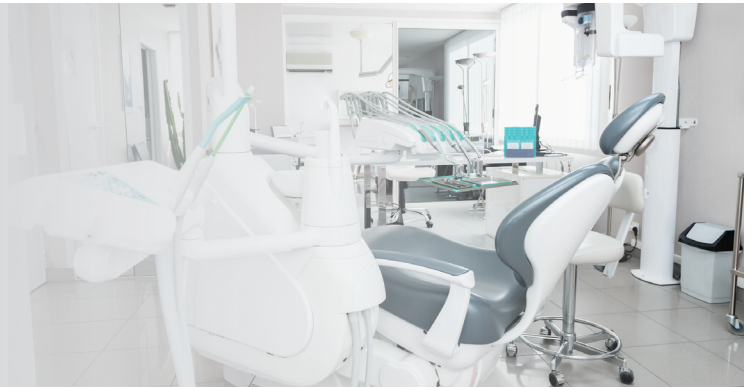


Preventing Transmission of COVID-19 in Dental Offices



You can reduce COVID-19 exposure in your dental office by taking the following measures:



Use fit tested, NIOSH-approved N95 during AGPs on any patient, regardless of COVID-19 status.

- o AGPs in dentistry include, but are not limited to: ultrasonic scaler, high-speed dental handpiece, air/water syringe, air polishing, and air abrasion.



Wear source control (masking) at all times.



Use mitigation methods such as four-handed dentistry, high evacuation suction, and dental dams to minimize droplet spatter and aerosols.



Reduce infectious particles in the air by increasing ventilation, including use of portable HEPA air filtration systems.



Provide dental treatment in individual patient rooms whenever possible.



Prevent the spread of pathogens in dental facilities with open floor plans (when possible) by:

- o Assuring at least 6 feet of space between patient chairs.
- o Creating physical barriers between patient chairs.
- o Orienting operatories parallel to the direction of airflow.
- o Placing the patient's head near the return air vents, away from pedestrian corridors, and toward the rear wall when using vestibule-type office layouts.
- o Accounting for the time required to clean and disinfect operatories between patients when calculating your daily patient volume.

Resources:



Ventilation and Air Quality for Reducing Transmission of COVID-19:

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/VentilationGuidance.pdf>



Preventing Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 During Aerosol Generating and Other Procedures:

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/COVID19InfectionControlForAerosolGeneratingProcedures.pdf>



Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html>



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