



Re-Opening Dental Practices in Maine

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Format for this presentation

1. What am I supposed to follow for guidance?
2. PPE- what do I need?
3. Frequently asked questions



How Do These Documents Fit Together?

- OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration)
- CDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention)
- ADA (American Dental Association)
- MDA (Maine Dental Association)
- OSAP (Organization for Safety Asepsis and Prevention)
- FDA (Food and Drug Administration)

DHHS Document: COVID-19 Guidance for Health Care Providers

On May 12, the Director (Dr. Redfield) of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) stated that CDC is in the process of updating its April 27 guidance on dental services which recommends postponing non-urgent dental care. Once issued, Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) will rely upon it along with relevant guidance from the American Dental Association (ADA) and Maine Dental Association (MDA).

[https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/documents/coronavirus/COVID-19-Guidance-for-Health-Care-Providers-051220 .pdf](https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/documents/coronavirus/COVID-19-Guidance-for-Health-Care-Providers-051220.pdf)

CDC Guidance (May 12):

- “As the pandemic continues, healthcare systems must balance the need to provide necessary services while minimizing risk to patients and healthcare personnel.”
- “It is unknown at this time how COVID-19 may permanently change infection control practices in dental health care settings, but CDC continually assesses emerging scientific evidence for developing policies, guidelines, and recommendations.”
- “Dental health care personnel are licensed by their state regulatory body and should practice according to their state dental practice acts or other relevant regulations. CDC is not a **regulatory agency** and does not publish regulations or other legally enforceable standards related to infection prevention and control in dental health care settings.”

Current Guidance:

- ADA “Return to Work Interim Guidance Toolkit”
- MDA “Establishing Safe Dental Care in the Era of COVID-19” (Dr. Keeling Chair)
- Governor Mills has delegated to Maine DHHS, so please consult the following link regularly:

[https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/documents/coronavirus/COVID-19-Guidance-for-Health-Care-Providers-051220 .pdf](https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/documents/coronavirus/COVID-19-Guidance-for-Health-Care-Providers-051220.pdf)



Consider making bookmarks on your browser to make finding the documents you need readily available.

ADA Return to Work Interim Guidance



https://pages.ada.org/return-to-work-toolkit-american-dental-association?utm_campaign=covid-19-Return-to-Work-Toolkit&utm_source=social-facebook&utm_medium=facebook&utm_content=covid-19-interim-return-to-work&fbclid=IwAR1ASDBtzrL9RHhS7h_nOhJ_kh_7C_60OFrtzMkWAhC75d4X45xNgMXZxo

Return to Work Interim Guidance Toolkit

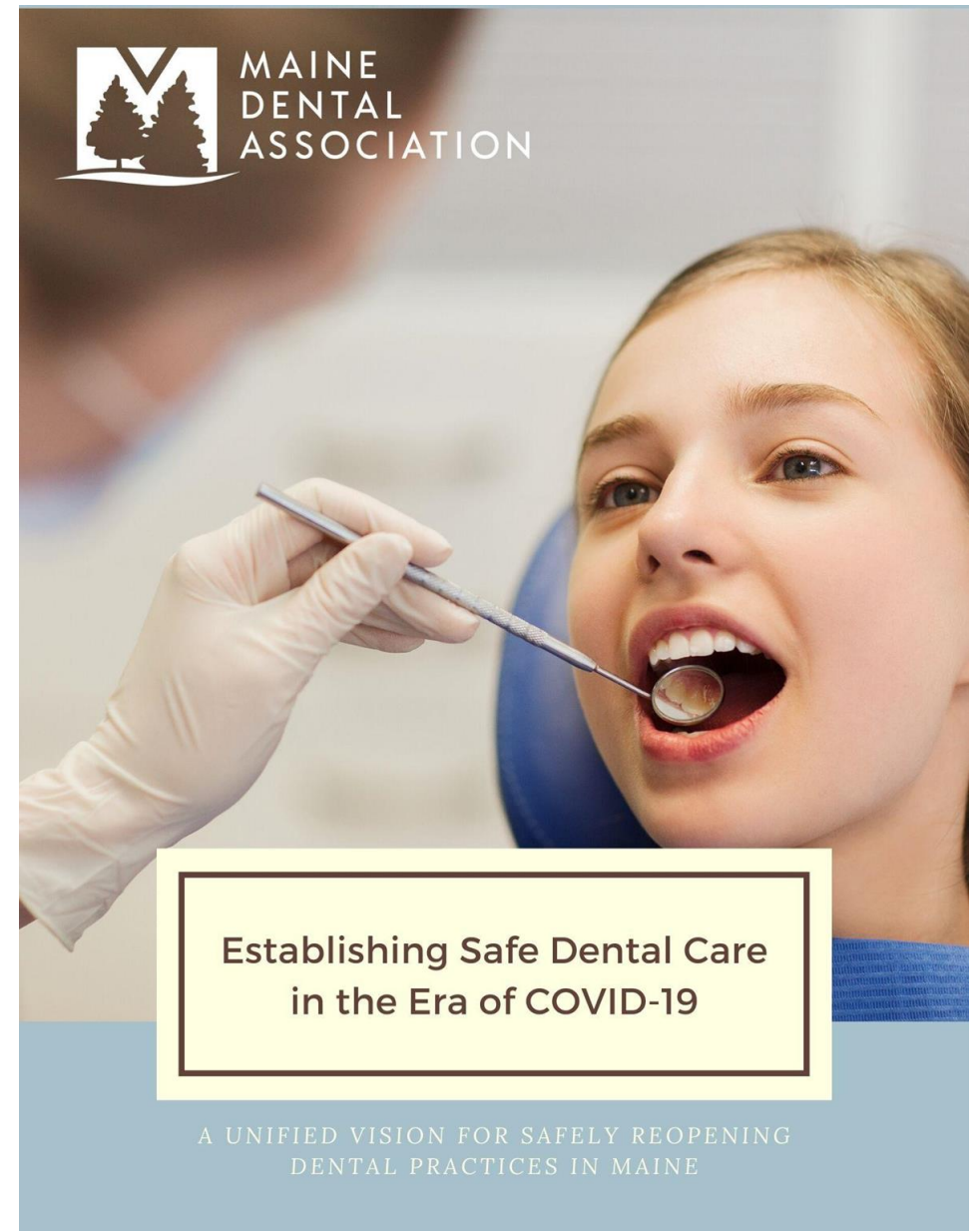
ADA[®]

ADA Toolkit Tips:

- Become an expert by reading this document. Most questions that people have can be found either directly in this document or by following the links.
- This document has changed several times, so please make sure that you are using the most current version.
- Follow all links and watch the webinars.
- Train your employees!

MDA Re-Opening Guidance

- Incorporates:
 - ADA Toolkit
 - ADHA Guidance
 - CDC
 - OSHA
 - OSAP
- Posted at: www.medental.org



MDA Re-Opening Task Force:

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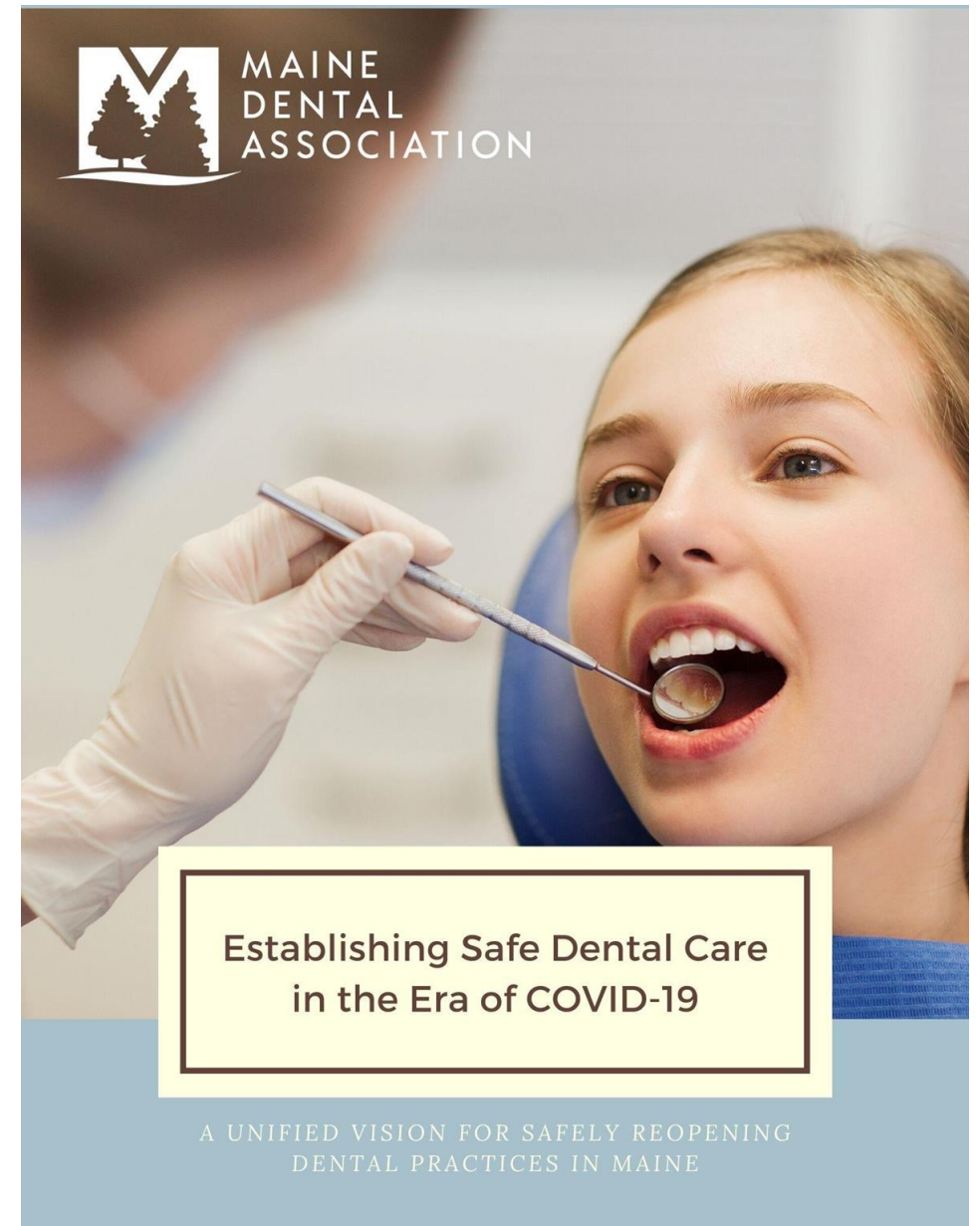
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Establishing Safe Dental Care
in the Era of COVID-19

A UNIFIED VISION FOR SAFELY REOPENING
DENTAL PRACTICES IN MAINE

What Masks Do We Use?



- N95
 - Initial fit test / Respiratory Protection Plan (RPP)
 - RPP: <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2015-117/default.html>
- KN95 (<https://www.fda.gov/media/136663/download>)
 - All respirators must be tight-fitting to be superior to surgical masks
- FDA approved level 3
 - During an aerosol generating procedure, a face shield should be used with this type of mask (MDA).
- Non-clinical staff 1, 2, 3 (barriers and/or face covering)

Links for Masks

CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/respirators-strategy/index.html#crisis>

FDA: <https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/personal-protective-equipment-infection-control/faqs-shortages-surgical-masks-and-gowns-during-covid-19-pandemic>

OSHA: <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/dentistry.html>

ADA:

https://success.ada.org/~media/CPS/Files/COVID/OSHA_Guidance_For_Dentistry_Workers_And_Employers.pdf?utm_source=cpsorg&utm_medium=covid-resources-lp-safety&utm_content=cv-safety-osha-guidelines&utm_campaign=covid-19

Goggles/ Eye Wear/ Face Shields:

- According to ADA: Goggles are the protection glasses normally used by the professional during routine procedures. They must protect the eyes and have a side shield.
- Currently, ADA recommends either goggles or face shield.

What is meant by gowns?

- Surgical gowns or isolation gowns may be disposable. They are long sleeve and have a layer of polypropylene that makes them impermeable. The most effective kind close in the back.
- If a cloth gown is to be worn, they must also have long sleeves. It must be removed while in the office and either laundered in the office or in a commercial laundry facility.

PPE - Gowns - Conservation Strategies:

<https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/personal-protective-equipment-infection-control/faqs-shortages-surgical-masks-and-gowns-during-covid-19-pandemic>

Q: Can I reuse a cloth gown?

A: Yes. Cloth gowns that will not be used in a sterile field, such as surgery, can be reused if they are laundered in enzymatic detergent or per the hospital's SOP.

Air Quality - What should I do?

- This depends on each individual office.
- Research about air quality and the potential for SARS-CoV-2 to act opportunistically as an aerosolized virus is mixed. There is no current standard for air quality in dental health care facilities. As such, dentists should employ one or a combination of the following: HEPA filtration/supplemental evacuation/Ultraviolet disinfection/allowing additional time between patients.
- We recommend you make a plan and make it known to your team.

Do I need to have less than 10 people?

- This state requirement is for “gatherings,” not for health care settings.
- Use social distancing or face coverings.
- Consider virtual waiting room.

Ways to Ease Team Tension:



- Equip the team with the best PPE you can source. If there is trouble sourcing PPE, tell them. Ask for their help in searching for PPE.
- Give them extra time for their procedures and all other tasks.
- Communicate with them to let them know the challenges we face from an economic standpoint.
- Ask what each team member is most concerned about and talk through how to address those concerns.

Questions:



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