

Oregon Dentists and COVID-19

What is the Status of Oregon Dentistry Today?

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Status of Dentistry Today

- COVID-19 Timeline for Oregon Dentists
- Why are More Dentists Not Back at Work?
 - Regulatory Burdens and Confusion
 - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Economic Impact on Dental Industry
- Emergency Dental Care

COVID-19 Dental Timeline

- **March 15th**: ODA called upon dentists to cease elective care and donate PPE
- **March 19th**: Executive Order 20-10
- **May 1st**: Executive Order 20-22: Elective non-urgent care allowed to resume
 - Announced 4/23: dentists start to book patients
 - OHA Guidance released 4/29
 - OHA Clarifying FAQs released 5/6
- **Today**: Many dental offices unable to resume non-urgent care

Regulatory Burdens and Uncertainty

- OHA uses the term “should” in guidance
- Dentists “should” use fit-tested N-95 masks
- Limited flexibility
- CDC Recommendations, OSHA Requirements, OHA Guidance, FDA Changes
- Changes/Updates in Requirements

PPE Insufficiencies

- N95s/KN95s seemingly required, but unavailable
- Dentists purchased KN95s- removed from FDA list
- Fit testing expensive



Economic Impact on Dental Practices

- Small Practices Hit the Hardest
- Many Closed for over Two Months
- Phased in Reopening
- Costly PPE Purchasing
- Keeping Dental Team Members Employed
 - 37.6% fully paying staff (HPI data)
 - 43.6% partially paying staff (HPI data)
- Limited Revenue Coming in

Emergency Care

- Oregon dentists ensuring dental emergencies do not present at ER
- 96% of surveyed offices available for emergency care
- ODA Emergency Referral Process

Questions?

[More Dental Data Available Here: HPI Survey:](#)
[COVID-19](#): Economic Impact on Dental Practices
(May 4th results)

