

**Essential vs. Non-Essential Dental Procedures**

This guide is to help dentists identify which dental procedures are considered Essential vs. Non-Essential during a national emergency. Dentists are to use the below as a guide, and encouraged to make professional judgement calls on the urgency of any procedure during emergencies. Patients with non-essential needs should be encouraged to maintain oral hygiene practices to maintain their current status. Please note: All procedures should also consider risk factors associated with demographics more susceptible to COVID-19, such as elderly patients.

Specialty	Procedure Type	Essential	Non-Essential
Restorative	<b>Fillings/Restorations</b>		
	Incipient to Mild Decay		x
	Moderate Decay		x
	Severe Decay	x	
	<b>Fracture tooth repair</b>		
	Pain	x	
	No Pain (If patient feels uncomfortable, consider that patient in pain)		x
	<b>Crown</b>		
	Crowns to be completed to navigate completion of care for moderate - severe decay as well as to complete RCT	x	
	Proactive replacement of restoration without decay		x
<b>Veneers</b>		x	
<b>Cosmetics</b>	<b>Cosmetic procedures</b>		x
Endodontics	Active Infection	x	
	Patient in Pain	x	
	Swelling or cellulitis	x	
<b>Emergency Patients</b>	Any patient who is contacting the practice with urgent needs should be seen to decrease overflow to Emergency Departments	x	
Hygiene	New Patient		x
	Recall		x
	Continuing Care		x
Oral Surgery	<b>Extractions</b>		
	Active Infection	x	
	Patient in Pain	x	
	Swelling or cellulitis	x	
	Third Molar without the above symptoms		x
	<b>Implants</b>		x
Orthodontics	New Bandings		x
	Patient complications (wire or bracket fractures)	x	
	Recall		x
	Debond*		x
	*Doctor to make judgement on if recall has extended time period and warrants a visit.		
Periodontics	<b>Initial Therapy SRP or Maintenance</b>		
	Patient has additional risk factors (Diabetes, Cardiac disease)	x	
	No additional risk factors		x
Prosthodontics	<b>Bridges</b>		x
	<b>Dentures and Removables</b>	x	
<b>Pediatrics</b>	Follow guidelines above for specific procedures.		

Developed by the Dental Advisory Board of the Professional Dental Alliance supported by North American Dental Group.

DISCLAIMER: This form is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute regulatory or legal advice.

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