

ESSENTIAL & EMERGENT VS NON-ESSENTIAL DENTAL PROCEDURES

***Dentists need to use the following simply as a guide and make judgment calls on the urgency of a procedure
 ***Please note all procedures should also consider risk factors associated with demographics more susceptible to COVID-19 such as elderly patients
 ***Refer to your state regulations for specific mandates and guidelines

Specialty	Procedure Type	Essential & Emergent	Non Essential
RESTORATIVE	Fillings/Restorations		
	<i>Incipient to Mild Decay</i>		x
	<i>Moderate Decay</i>		x
	<i>Severe Decay</i>	x	
	Fracture tooth repair		
	<i>Pain</i>	x	
	<i>No Pain (If patient feels uncomfortable, consider that patient in pain)</i>		x
	Crown		
	<i>***consider delaying crown if possible to focus on emergent care</i>		
	<i>Proactive replacement of restoration without decay</i>		x
	Veneers		x
	Bridges		x
COSMETICS	Cosmetic Procedures		x
ENDODONTICS	Root Canal Therapy or Retreatment (Anterior, Premolar, Posterior)		
	<i>Active Infection</i>	x	
	<i>Patient in Pain</i>	x	
	<i>Swelling or cellulitis</i>	x	
ORAL SURGERY	Extractions		
	<i>Active Infection</i>	x	
	<i>Patient in Pain</i>	x	
	<i>Swelling or cellulitis</i>	x	
	<i>Third Molar without the above symptoms</i>		x
	<i>Asymptomatic - Medically Compromised patient</i>	x	
	Facial Trauma	x	
	Biopsy(to support pathology diagnosis)	x	
	Cellulitis/ Incision and Drainage	x	
	Implants		x
	TMJ with dysfunction and/or pain	x	
HYGIENE PROCEDURE	<i>New Patient</i>		x
	<i>Recall</i>		x
	<i>Continuing Care</i>		x
PERIODONTAL PROCEDURES	Scaling and Root Planning		
	<i>Stage 1-2</i>		x
	<i>Stage 3 - doctors to use judgment</i>	x	x
	<i>Stage 4</i>	x	
	Periodontal Maintenance		x
	Debridement of Acute Periodontal Abscess	x	
	Osseous Surgery for painful, acute infection	x	
	Soft Tissue Grafting		x
	Crown Lengthening		x
EMERGENCY PATIENTS	<i>Any existing and new patient with urgent needs should be seen to decrease overflow to Emergency Departments</i>	x	
ORTHODONTICS	<i>New Bandings</i>		x
	<i>New Start - Clear Aligners</i>		x
	<i>Patient complications (wire or bracket fractures)</i>	x	
	<i>Recall (brackets or aligners)</i>		x
	<i>Debond</i>		x
	<i>***Doctor to make judgment on if recall has had an extended time period that would require a visit</i>		
PEDIATRICS	<i>***Follow guidelines above for specific procedures for pediatric patients.</i>		