



## Addendum to ASDA COVID 19 Statement as of April 23, 2020

As the month of April draws towards an end, many communities have been in either voluntary or mandated Stay-in social isolation mode. The American Dental Association and most of its component societies have recommended the suspension of non-emergency oral health care until April 30<sup>th</sup>.

The focus is currently still on the effectiveness of social isolation as it relates to slowing the spread of the COVID-19 virus and reducing the strain on hospitals and health care organizations. Communities are now looking at gradually easing those restrictions and the reopening of businesses.

Returning to work in health care is important not only to the dental and medical health care providers, but also to the patients who await the needed care.

Until COVID 19 spread is controlled, health care providers will need to continue their diligent use the guidelines below to minimize the spread of the virus as well as protecting highly vulnerable patients from exposure to this virus.

- 1) Comply with local and State regulatory mandates guiding this process of gradual phase-in of opening society.
- 2) Adhere to the current recommendations for PPE including the use of N95 masks, use of goggles and face shield, use of head covers as well as protective gowns.
- 3) Patient evaluation, decision making regarding care prioritization. Strict patient selection and prioritization is extremely important and is to be done in collaboration between the dentist/dental specialist and the dentist anesthesiologist.
- 4) Postponing the care of highly vulnerable populations such as the elderly and medically compromised until later dates.
- 5) Disinfection of anesthesia equipment and instruments as well as allowing a minimum of 30 minutes between procedures.
- 6) Point of care testing offers an important safety measure in screening and exclusion of patients who might have asymptomatic active COVID 19 infections. Such reliable testing is not widely available yet. The ASDA will continue to monitor the progress in the availability of such testing as well as its reliability and affordability in the ambulatory setting.

The ASDA will continue its updates regarding evidence-based epidemiologic and therapeutic studies as well as recommendations issued by the Federal Government, ADA, ASDA/APSF among other communities of interest.

We continue to wish our members, their families, their staff and their patients' health and safety,

American Society of Dentist Anesthesiologists

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## **Resources**

### **April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

ASDA [Interim Guidance for Dentist Anesthesiologists Practicing In The Office-Based Setting During The COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

### **April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

ASA [Joint Statement: Roadmap for Resuming Elective Surgery after COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

### **April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

ADA [Interim guidance for personal protective equipment \(PPE\)](#)

US Government [The Road Map for Reopening America](#)

SAMBA [Society for Ambulatory Anesthesia \(SAMBA\) Statement on Resuming Ambulatory Anesthesia Care as Our Nation Recovers from COVID-19](#)

### **April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

CMS [Opening Up America Again Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services \(CMS\) Recommendations Re-opening Facilities to Provide Non-emergent Non-COVID-19 Healthcare: Phase I](#)

### **April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020**

ASA [Minimizing Medication Waste during the Coronavirus-19 Global Pandemic](#)