

Approaches for Prioritizing Care in Response to COVID-19

This resource is designed to support dental care teams in identifying patient's health and risk status using in-office and teledental service modalities.

For the Front Desk Team:

Prioritizes patient outreach and provides scheduling recommendations.

For the Dental Clinical Team:

Suggests management and interventions based on health and risk status.



Oral Health Status (including risk factors that affect oral health)	Management Type	Targeted Outreach and Scheduling Approaches	Interventions	Caries Risk Assessment (CRA) Periodontitis Risk Assessment (PRA)
Excellent Oral Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No chronic or concomitant disease or disorder No current oral health disease 	Self-management	Teledental Health Promotion/ Disease Prevention (HP/DP) visit:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motivational Interviewing: D9994 Caries Risk Assessment: D0601-0603 Oral Hygiene Instructions: D1330 Nutritional Counseling: D1310 Description: Using motivational interviewing/shared decision-making techniques, craft a home care plan with patients and families to maintain low caries risk, promote oral health and overall health	CRA: Low PRA: Low
Moderate/Good Oral Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No chronic or concomitant disease or disorder Active oral health disease (caries, perio) 	Self-management Disease management	Teledental visit*: *In-office visit: (if needed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teledental HP/DP above Non-aerosol, low aerosol or minimally invasive procedures¹² 	CRA: Low/Moderate PRA: Low/Moderate (or chronic gingivitis as a diagnosis)
Compromised or At-Risk for Oral Diseases <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active oral health disease (caries, perio) Pregnant patients Chronic or concomitant disease or disorder: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oral cancer, diabetes, inflammatory diseases, and cardiovascular disease 	Self-management Disease management Urgent dental care	Teledental visit: In-office visit:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teledental HP/DP as above and schedule in-office visit according to risk Non-aerosol, low aerosol or minimally invasive procedures¹ Droplet precautions and aerosol-mitigating engineering and clinical options² 	CRA: Moderate/High PRA: Moderate or chronic gingivitis/ periodontitis
Poor Oral Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active cellulitis/abscess Pain/swelling Possible infection 	Self-management Disease management Immediate dental care	Teledental visit: In-office visit:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teledental HP/DP as above and schedule in-office visit according to risk May include prep for in-office and post-operative instructions for in-office visit Non-aerosol, low aerosol or minimally invasive procedures¹ Treatment plan with in-office visits scheduled according to low aerosol or mod/high aerosol producing visits² 	CRA: Moderate/High PRA: High
Emergency or New Dental Patient <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unknown oral health or health status 	Self-management Disease management Immediate and/or urgent dental care	Teledental visit: In-office visit: (if needed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teledental HP/DP as above and schedule in-office visit according to emergency May include prep for in-office and post-operative instructions for in-office visit Non-aerosol, low aerosol or minimally invasive procedures¹ Moderate/high aerosol procedures² 	CRA: Determine PRA: Possibly determine

¹Non-aerosol, low aerosol or minimally invasive procedures

- Preventative:* Exams, hand scaling
- Prevention and Caries Control:* Fluoride Varnish, Silver Diamide Fluoride (SDF), Curodont Repair Fluoride Plus
- Minimally Invasive Dental Procedures or Materials:* GIC sealants, ART + Hall techniques, Non-surgical extractions

²Engineering Controls and Aerosol mitigating in-office clinical/procedural options

- In-office rinse
- Rubber dam use
- In-room aerosol evacuators and HVAC design
- High speed suction attachments such as Iso-lite
- Minimally invasive dental treatments and products
- Electric handpiece uses in lieu of air-driven high speed handpieces