

# **Guidelines for Registered Dental Technologists**

# COVID-19

March 16, 2020

The College's <u>Standard of Practice: Infection Prevention & Control, (September 22, 2017)</u> sets out the expectation of its Members in regards to the prevention of transmission of infectious diseases and procedures for infection prevention/control in the dental technology practice. Infection prevention and control is an important part of the health and safety of both patients and practitioners.

Here's what Dental Technologists need to know:

- 1. All dental technology care settings should follow their usual activities using routine practices as outlined in the <u>CDTO IPAC Standard</u>, including droplet and contact precautions.
- Dental Technologists and their staff should be actively screening (asking questions) and passively screening (using <u>signage</u>) for COVID-19. For more detailed information on screening, please refer to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) <u>Guidance for Primary Care Providers in a</u> <u>Community Setting</u>.
- 3. Screening is completed to assess the client to determine if they meet the definition of a <u>"Person</u> <u>Under Investigation (PUI)"</u>.
- 4. Screening should be done over the phone before scheduling appointments.
- 5. Where clients present without phone screening, trained staff should screen clients to determine if they meet the definition of a <u>PUI</u>.
- 6. Staff conducting screening should ideally be behind a barrier to protect from droplet/contact spread.
- 7. Signage should be posted asking clients with symptoms to identify themselves.
- 8. All suspected cases MUST be reported to your <u>Local Public Health Unit</u> to determine next steps.

## RESOURCES

• CDTO Standard of Practice: Infection Prevention & Control, (September 22, 2017)

### COVID-19 Public Resources: Public Health Ontario Fact Sheets:

How to Self-Monitor How to Self-Isolate Self-isolation: Guide for caregivers, household members and close contacts Cleaning and Disinfection for Public Settings

These websites will be updating information as it becomes available. Be sure to check daily for updates.

- <u>Ministry of Health COVID-19 Webpage</u> Updated twice daily at 10:30am and 5:30pm with information on cases in Ontario, how to protect yourself and how to recognize possible symptoms.
- The Ministry of Health's website for health workers and healthcare employers.
- Guidance Documents for Healthcare Workers
- Public Health Ontario
- Government of Canada's website for occupational health and safety
- <u>Telehealth</u> Get fast, free medical advice through Telehealth Ontario at: Toll-free: 1-866-797-0000 Toll-free TTY: 1-866-797-0007
- Local Public Health Unit

#### 2019 Novel Coronavirus (Ontario Public Health):

<u>Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Guidance for Primary Care Providers in a Community Setting</u> – includes important information on active (asking questions) and passive (using signage) screening

Patient Sign

The 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

<u>Case Definition – Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)</u>

#### Proper Hygiene (Ontario Public Health):

What You Need to Know to Help You and Your Family Stay Healthy

Hand Hygiene

Just Clean Your Hands Videos