

### 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. Please refer to your state and local professional agencies for specific mandates.

| Specialty          | Procedure Type  | Essential | Non-Essential |
|--------------------|---|-----------|---------------|
| Restorative        | <b>Fillings/Restorations</b>  |           |               |
|                    | Incipient to Mild Decay   |           | x             |
|                    | Moderate Decay  |           | x             |
|                    | Severe Decay  | x         |               |
|                    | <b>Fractured tooth repair</b>   |           |               |
|                    | Pain  | x         |               |
|                    | No Pain (If patient feels uncomfortable, consider that patient in pain)   |           | x             |
|                    | <b>Crown</b>  |           |               |
|                    | **Consider delaying crown if possible to focus on emergent care   |           |               |
|                    | Crowns to be completed to navigate completion of care for moderate - severe decay as well as to complete RCT              | x         |               |
| Cosmetics          | Proactive replacement of restoration without decay  |           | x             |
|                    | <b>Veneers</b>  |           | x             |
| Cosmetics          | <b>Cosmetic procedures</b>  |           | x             |
|                    | Active Infection  | x         |               |
| Endodontics        | Patient in Pain   | x         |               |
|                    | Swelling or cellulitis  | x         |               |
| Emergency Patients | 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             |
|                    | Asymptomatic - medically compromised patient  | x         |               |
|                    | Facial Trauma   | x         |               |
|                    | Biopsy (to support pathology diagnosis)   | x         |               |
|                    | Cellulitis / Incision and Drainage  | x         |               |
|                    | TMJ with dysfunction and/or pain  | x         |               |
| Orthodontics       | <b>Implants</b>   |           | x             |
|                    | New Bandings  |           | x             |
|                    | New Start - Clear Aligners  |           | x             |
|                    | Patient complications (wire or bracket fractures)   | x         |               |
|                    | Recall (brackets of aligners)   |           | x             |
|                    | Debond*   |           | x             |
| Periodontics       | *Doctor to make judgement on if recall has extended time period and warrants a visit.                                     |           |               |
|                    | <b>Scaling and Root Planning</b>  |           |               |
|                    | Stage 1 - 2   |           | x             |
|                    | Stage 3 - (Doctors to use independent judgement)  | x         | x             |
|                    | Stage 4 (Symptomatic)   | x         |               |
|                    | <b>Periodontal Maintenance</b>  |           | x             |
|                    | Debridement of Acute Periodontal Abscess  | x         |               |
|                    | Osseous Surgery for painful, acute infection  | x         |               |
|                    | Soft Tissue Grafting  |           | x             |
| Prosthodontics     | Crown Lengthening   |           | x             |
|                    | <b>Bridges</b>  |           | x             |
|                    | Dentures and Removables   | x         |               |
| Pediatrics         | Follow guidelines above for specific procedures.  |           |               |

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