



COLLEGE OF DENTAL HYGIENISTS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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May 15, 2020

Dear Registrant:

The College is pleased to release a series of guidance documents related to the safe resumption of the provision of in-person non-essential care. Given the message from the Provincial Health Officer in the letter referenced below, the College is recommending that starting on May 19th, 2020, registrants are able to provide in-person non-essential care as long as all the standards and guidelines in the following documents can be met.

Please note that there are direct links contained within each of the following documents to information from the BCCDC, PICNet and Worksafe BC that is critical for registrants to access and consider. At the time this message was provided, the document from the BCCDC had not been posted to their website. In the interest of distributing the majority of the information we have decided to release the available documents now. As soon as the BCCDC document becomes available we will notify you and update the documents on our website.

[Letter from the Provincial Health Officer Regarding Return to Non-Essential Care](#)

Dr. Henry has provided a letter to health care professionals regarding a resumption of the provision of non-essential health care services. This letter also contains links to supporting guidelines from the BCCDC and Worksafe BC.

[BC Health Regulators Guidance for Community Health Care Services](#)

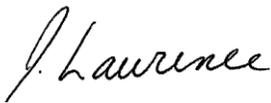
This document provides general guidance for health care professionals who provide care in a community setting. This document was a collaborative effort of the BC Health Regulators. This document also contains links to general guidelines from the BCCDC and Worksafe BC.

[Transitioning Oral Healthcare to Phase 2 of the COVID-19 Response Plan](#)

This document is a shared document between the College of Dental Hygienists of BC, the College of Dental Surgeons of BC, the College of Denturists of BC and the College of Dental Technicians of BC. It provides oral health care specific information regarding a resumption of the provision of non-essential care. Registrants will note that this document differentiates between the provision of aerosol-generating medical procedures (AGMPs) and non-AGMPs. Page 10 of the document outlines the PPE required for AGMPs and non-AGMPs. Page 13 identifies types of AGMP-generating instruments. At this time, **debridement using hand instruments is considered a non-AGMP**. It should be noted that this document is based on the most current information and evidence available, however this will be a living document. As further information and evidence becomes available this document will be updated as appropriate and registrants will be informed of the changes.

As mentioned in previous communications, the ability to resume the provision of non-essential care on May 19th, 2020 does not mean that there is an expectation of a 'must' return. Each practice, and each professional within that practice, will have to consider all the information provided as well as their own circumstances to determine when and how care can be provided in a manner that will keep clients, themselves and all those within the practice safe. Some registrants may decide that a resumption of the provision of in-person non-essential care on May 19th is not prudent or desirable for a multitude of reasons. A slow, thoughtful and measured approach should be taken as we enter phase 2 of the Restart BC plan and think about providing that non-essential care to the public.

The College understands that the past number of months have been very challenging and the path forward is still somewhat uncertain. The College will continue to be diligent in its mandate to protect the public and will closely monitor the situation as we carefully carve a path to a 'new normal'. Should information or the situation change we will communicate that out as soon as we become aware. As we have always done, in the words of Dr. Henry, we encourage everyone to continue to be kind and be safe.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. Lawrence".

Jennifer Lawrence
Registrar/CEO