



For Immediate Release
August 13, 2020

College of Dental Surgeons of Saskatchewan (CDSS) clarifies WHO considerations on delaying non-essential oral health care not applicable in Canada

Numerous media agencies have been reporting on [the interim guidance](#) released by the World Health Organization in early August, in which they recommend that: "oral health check-ups, dental cleanings, aesthetic treatments, and preventative care should be postponed until community transmission is reduced to cluster cases, or according to official recommendations at the national, sub-national, or local level."

The Canadian Dental Association (CDA) has clarified that the World Health Organization's (WHO) [considerations](#) to delay the provision of non-essential oral health care during the COVID-19 pandemic are not relevant for the current status in Canada since there is not wide-spread community transmission of COVID-19 in our country. Canada is experiencing cluster-contained outbreaks, conditions which allow for routine oral health care to be provided ([Link to CDA response](#)).

CDSS President Todd Graham offered the organizations support for the CDA response commenting that, "We will continue to encourage regional, provincial and national media outlets to examine the science and due diligence that has been used to promote and enhance public safety by provincial regulatory bodies and associations across Canada."

The CDSS will monitor this issue while it continues to situate public safety at the forefront of patient centred oral health care.

-30-

Contact:
Jerod Orb
Executive Director, CDSS
306.612.0193