

Alert: Provision of Emergency Dental Care in Saskatchewan - COVID-19

April 6, 2020 Level 3 Update: SHA Emergency Dental Clinics

Level 3 Update - The SHA, in collaboration with CDSS, has established two SHA Emergency Dental Clinics, one in Saskatoon and one in Regina, to provide emergency dental care. SHA will support these two clinics with all the appropriate PPE/ N95 masks and training with a focus on keeping dental emergencies out of hospital emergency rooms. If a dental emergency can not be managed at any of Level 1, 2A or 2B, CDSS members can refer patients directly to a Level 3 SHA emergency dental clinic.

- **Regina:** <https://provincialoralsurgery.com/>
- **Saskatoon:** <https://www.saskatoonoralsurgery.ca/>

Current Protocol: Provision of Emergency Dental Care in Saskatchewan- COVID-19

- A dental emergency exists if **professional judgement** indicates that a person needs immediate attention to address oral trauma, pain, infection, bleeding or other associated medical complications.
- CDSS members are **not to provide routine or urgent care** to patients. CDSS members are strongly recommended to only provide emergency dental care that fits within the above description.
- Emergency cases should be managed via telephone screening risk assessment by taking a verbal history of the patient's condition.
- All CDSS members **must** operate under the current CDSS Standards and Alerts relating to this COVID-19 pandemic.

Level 1 - All CDSS members must maintain contact with their patients and manage emergencies using Pharmacotherapeutics. If patients cannot be managed at this Level 1, they should be referred to Level 2A or 2B or Level 3 providers.

If you have a patient that requires Level 2A or 2B emergency dental care and can not currently provide that level of emergency care, please contact the CDSS at: tania@saskdentists.com. This list of 2A and 2B providers will be for internal use of the CDSS office only.

If you have a patient that requires Level 3 emergency dental care, please contact the Level 3 SHA emergency dental clinic.

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Level 2 - The CDSS encourages members to provide emergency dental care at this level while maintaining proper PPE and IPC protocols in their own dental office. Current best practice:

- A. Asymptomatic patient & non-aerosol generating procedures: Current SOHP IPC standards apply and proper PPE. This includes proper PPE such as gloves, surgical masks, protective eyewear.
- B. Asymptomatic patient & aerosol generating procedures: Current SOHP IPC standards and proper PPE including properly fitting N95 masks, protective clothing, gloves, protective eyewear or face shield. Protective clothing includes fluid-resistant gowns and lab-coats.

Level 3 - If a dental emergency can not be managed at any of Level 1, 2A or 2B, CDSS members can refer patients directly to a Level 3 SHA emergency dental clinic.

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Level 4 - The SHA wishes to minimize the provision of dental emergency services possible in the hospital setting. If dental emergencies present to hospitals, they will be triaged accordingly by our medical colleagues as needed.

Please direct any questions to the CDSS office at: cdss@saskdentists.com

Further communication will be provided to all CDSS members.