



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
P.O. Box 41100 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1110

April 14, 2020

TO: All Incarcerated Individuals
FROM: DOC Chief of Dentistry and Facility Dental Teams
SUBJECT: Dental Modification to DOC Dental Services

As of March 17, 2020, we have reduced all dental services that can generate significant aerosols except in emergency situations. The urgency of a procedure is a decision based on the dentist clinical judgement and will be made on a case-by-case basis. Aerosols are liquid droplets in the air. The coronavirus can be trapped in these droplets. Several routine dental treatments, like using a drill, forms aerosols. For your safety, we have chosen to modify the dental treatments we provide during this outbreak.

We will continue to provide urgent and emergency dental care as medically indicated. Dental teams will continue to evaluate all kites and previously scheduled appointments to determine which appointments can be rescheduled for a later time.

We will continue to provide dental intake screenings including oral radiographs (x-rays) as prescribed by the dentists.

Urgent and Emergency Dental conditions include one or more of the following:

- Severe* toothache or oral pain
- Swelling of your gums, face, or neck
- Bleeding in your mouth that *does not* stop
- Facial trauma (suspected or confirmed jaw fracture)

We will continue to update our services in line with the current CDC guidelines and Governor Inslee's Emergency Proclamation 20-24 – Restrictions on Non Urgent Medical Procedures. Our desire is to safeguard the health and safety of our patients, our dental staff, and the community. We hope you understand and thank you for your cooperation.