

MDA GUIDANCE ON DENTAL EMERGENCY CARE FOR DENTAL CLINICS TO HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 DURING MOVEMENT CONTROL ORDER

Dear Esteemed Members of the MDA,

We are all in a unprecedented nationwide battle and it is vital for all dentists to help play our role as healthcare providers in curbing the spread of COVID-19. Our hearts are with you in this challenging time which is affecting your practice in so many aspects especially in this time of **Movement Control Order** which is being implemented until 31st March 2020.

All dentists are advised to treat every patient as if they may carry the virus. The last MDA Advisory has outlined already the protective protocol and accessories required. As far as possible carry out only emergency dental procedures and leave elective procedures to a later date.

Here is a list of dental emergencies:-

- Acute odontogenic infection / Facial cellulitis
- Pulpitis
- Dento-oro-facial trauma
- Uncontrolled bleeding
- Dislodged orthodontic brackets and accessories
- Fractured dental appliance
- Acute pain often related to infection or cracked tooth
- Trigeminal neuralgia
- Odontogenic tumour/growth
- Loose / dislodged crowns/bridges
- Trigeminal neuralgia and any other condition that causes acute pain or discomfort that cannot be managed by over-the-counter medications.

This guidance may change as the COVID-19 pandemic progresses. The above list is not exhaustive and Dental practitioners should use their professional judgment in determining a patient's need for urgent or emergency care.

We at the Association are monitoring the situation closely and we are called to adhere to all advice by the relevant authorities. The health and wellbeing of our nation, members, immediate family members and our staffs is always our top priority. We are in this together. Let us encourage and help one another through this dark trying times. We are confident that together we will see the sun shine again.

Serving Together With You
President and Council
Malaysian Dental Association
March 2020

Reference:-

Isu Berhubung Penularan Jangkitan Wabak COVID-19 di Perkhidmatan Kesihatan Pergigian
Bl.1/2020 by Oral Health Program, Ministry of Health Malaysia