We’ve spoken to Dr. John Molinari, our educator and consultant in all things infection control. As he always has, he is giving excellent tips for dental professionals:

**Be aware recommendations state by state and hour by hour are being updated.** Follow [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) for the latest updates.

**Here are his recommendations:**

Stop seeing patients in your office for a minimum of 2 weeks, as recommended by many states, including here in Michigan.

**If you must see a patient on an emergency basis:**

- Follow the rules of Standard Precautions. Assume everyone is infectious. Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds. Wear protective equipment. Properly sterilize all instruments and disinfect all surfaces.

- DO NOT attempt to make or re-use single use disposable infection control items such as wipes, hand sanitizer, gloves, or masks.

- Any mask is better than no mask, but N-95 is the gold standard. Level 3 masks should be used at this time if N-95s are not available. Unfortunately for dentistry, it is more likely we will not be able to acquire these since there is so much misuse and hoarding.

- Social Distancing is recommended to protect any vulnerable populations (immunocompromised and those over 65 years of age). Even if you are not sick, you could be spreading the virus unknowingly.

**This means STAY HOME. Stop the spread.**

Be smart. Be well. Best wishes to all.