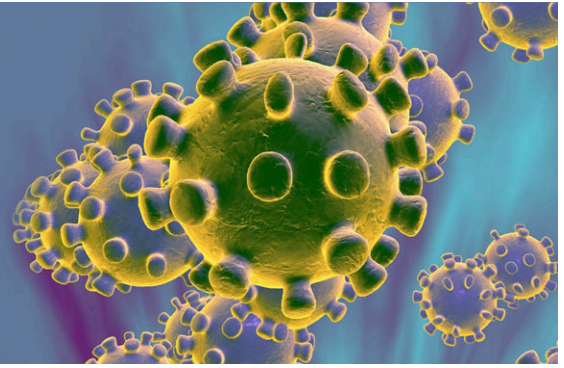




Dr. John Molinari

COPING WITH THE CORONAVIRUS



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.

