



ORAL HEALTH KANSAS
ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION

COVID-19 Precautions: Can I receive dental care?

The most important thing you can do right now to stay healthy and make sure others are healthy is to stay home. In Kansas, most dentist offices are providing care only if it is an emergency.

If your mouth or teeth hurt or you think you have a dental emergency CALL your dental provider or local dental safety-net clinic. Tell them about your dental problems as well as how you feel, including if you have a fever, a cough or chest pain. Your dental team will tell you what to do next. Your dentist may talk with you about your symptoms on the phone or over video chat. **DO NOT GO TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM.**

Dental emergencies may include:

- Very bad toothache pain (not just a twinge)
- Swollen gums, face, or neck
- Bleeding in your mouth that does not stop
- Infection or a substantial risk of it
- Recent trauma to the mouth

Dental appointments for these needs should be rescheduled:

- Regular exam or cleaning
- Regular visits for braces
- Treatment for cavities that are not painful
- Removal of teeth that are not painful

Stay healthy:

- [Wash your hands](#) very often with soap and water. Scrub for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap is not available.
- Don't touch your face. This is a lot harder than it sounds and requires effort.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with the inside of your elbow or upper arm.
- Stay home if you are feeling sick and call for appropriate medical guidance.
- Take care of your teeth and mouth. Brush your teeth twice a day and floss daily. Replace your toothbrush after any illness.

Find a Dental Provider:

- Oral Health Kansas: <http://www.oralhealthkansas.org/FindingDentist.html>
- Community Care Network of Kansas: <https://www.communitycareks.org/information-for-consumers/find-a-clinic/>
- Kansas Dental Association: <https://www.ksdental.org/public-information/find-a-dentist>

For more information:

- COVID Hotline: Kansas Department of Health & Environment: **866-534-3463 (866-KDHEINF)**
Or visit <https://govstatus.egov.com/coronavirus>
- American Dental Association COVID resource: <https://bit.ly/ADAResource>

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