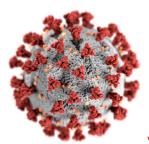


STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN FOR THE PERIOD AFTER THE CRISIS CREATED BY COVID-19



VERSION APRIL 13, 2020



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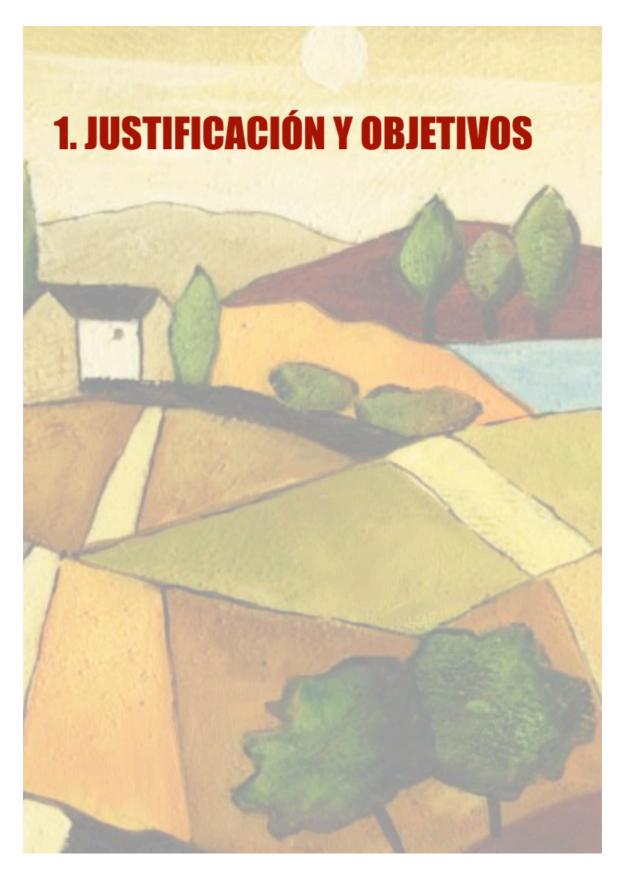
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CONTROL OF REVISIONS AND MODIFICATIONS					
Revision number	Date	Description of modifications			
one	April 13, 2020	Initial edition			







one. JUSTIFICATION AND OBJECTIVES

The moments that most countries are going through due to the declared pandemic of COVID-19 have led to the proclamation of government orders and / or recommendations regarding dental care to be provided. All of them without exception advocate a limitation of dental clinical activity exclusively to the treatment of emergencies, clearly establishing the measures and protocols to be adopted. However, it is necessary to prepare in parallel for the post-crisis period created by the pandemic. At the present time, there are no specific official protocols, either national or international, that clearly address how the dentist should proceed, in his daily practice, in the post-confinement stage, to work with the best guarantees of protection for patients and the human team of the dental practice. For this reason, and with all the necessary reservations and prudence, this Strategic Plan provides a series of guidelines that can be useful for when that time comes. It is evident that there is a high degree of uncertainty at present (% of asymptomatic infected patients, evolution of the epidemic in Spain, mechanisms that will be implemented after confinement, constant publication of scientific information, etc.). For this reason, this Document should be considered dynamic and will be updated periodically, as more relevant scientific or technical information becomes available.

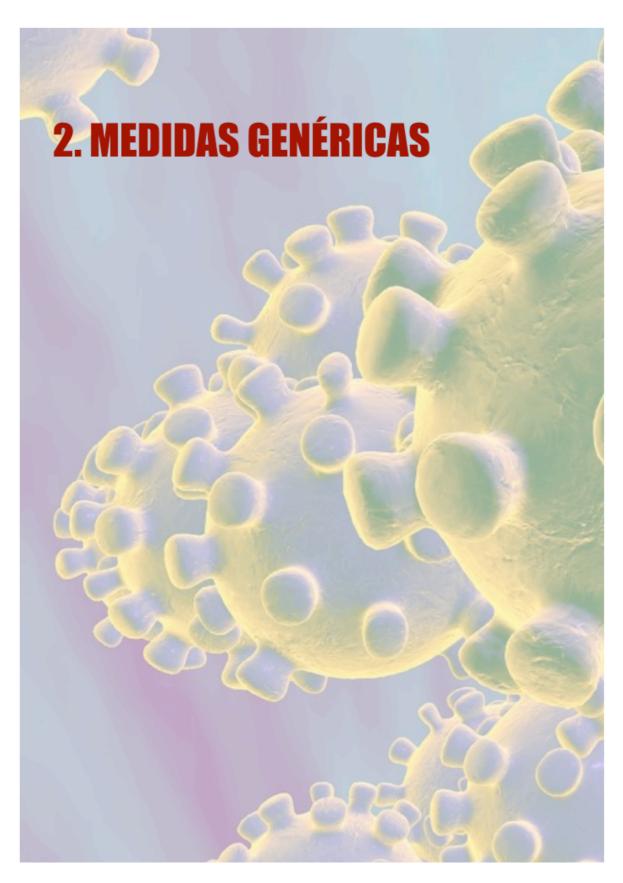
OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this Strategic Plan are the following:

one) Design the master lines of protection and reduction of transmission risks in any dental office, public or private, once the epidemic stage for COVID-19 in Spain has been passed.

two) Provide the dentist, in a practical and realistic format, the available scientific evidence so far on COVID-19, aimed at safely attending to their patients and keeping their consultation staff protected.







two. STRATEGIC GENERIC MEASURES

2.1. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS OF THE TRANSMISSION

§ Transmission routes:

All studies to date confirm the following transmission routes:

- through respiratory droplets (Flügge droplets through sneezing, coughing)
- through transmission by direct contact: contaminated hands or fomites and subsequent contact with mucosa (mouth, nose, eyes)
- very recently, the hypothesis of a possible third pathway has been expressed through microparticles during speech, and may remain suspended in the air for some time (Zou, N. Engl. J. Med., 2020).
- the fecal-oral route may be another possible route

§ Incubation period:

The average incubation period is 5-6 days, but there is scientific evidence that this period in some cases has been extended to 14 days. It should be borne in mind that many patients are asymptomatic, or present very mild symptoms, this is especially important in children from one and a half to 17 years of age.

§ Case fatality rate:

The average rate currently stands at 5% but varies between 1.2% and 12% depending on the area of infection. These values are much higher than those of seasonal influenza caused by the influenza virus (0.01-0.17%). The case fatality rate increases according to the age of the affected patient (especially from the age of 60) as well as in patients with previous pathologies (respiratory, cardiovascular, diabetes, etc.).

§ Health personnel and risk of infection:

The latest available data from China shows that 1,716 toilets have been affected (3.8% of all infected in China). However, the data available in Spain as of April 9 is 13% (more than 20,000 cases, making our country the one with the highest percentage of cases among healthcare personnel)



2.2. THE EPIS: TYPES OF MASKS, GLOVES, EYE PROTECTION, CLOTHING

§ Masks:

All current protocols recommend the use of FFP2 type filter masks (UNF-FN 149: 2001 + A1: 2009 standard) as the profession of dentist is considered risky due to the usual generation of aerosols. In no case will these include an exhalation valve, since in this case the air is exhaled directly into the environment without any type of retention and, where appropriate, the spread of the virus would be favored. These masks have a filtering efficiency of 92%. The Ministry of Health also authorizes the use of the so-called half mask with a P2 particle filter (UNE-EN 140: 1999 standard). FFP2s are designed for single use only, but are used by many medical associations for up to 4 hours. Very recently, the effectiveness of its sterilization has been published by various tested methods (sterilization with steam of hydrogen peroxide, by dry heat at 70°C for 30 minutes, or with humid heat at 121°C and a sterilization plateau of 15 minutes). 2 or 3 sterilizations (therefore 3-4 uses of the mask) would be possible as long as it is clean and without breakage. To keep it clean, it is recommended to put on an external surgical mask. The half mask with filter is capable of being cleaned and disinfected after use (see the manufacturer's instructions to avoid damaging it and reducing its effectiveness). There are no definitive studies to confirm that FFP3 masks (98% filtering efficiency) better protect against coronavirus. by dry heat at 70°C for 30 minutes, or by humid heat at 121°C and sterilization plateau for 15 minutes). 2 or 3 sterilizations (therefore 3-4 uses of the mask) would be possible as long as it is clean and without breakage. To keep it clean, it is recommended to put on an external surgical mask. The half mask with filter is capable of being cleaned and disinfected after use (see the manufacturer's instructions to avoid damaging it and reducing its effectiveness). There are no definitive studies to confirm that FFP3 masks (98% filtering efficiency) better protect against coronavirus. by dry heat at 70°C for 30 minutes, or by humid heat at 121°C and sterilization plateau for 15 minutes). 2 or 3 sterilizations (therefore 3-4 uses of the mask) would be possible as long as it is clean and without breakage. To keep it clean, it is recommended to put on an external surgical mask. The half mask with filter is capable of being cleaned and disinfected after use (see the manufacturer's instructions to avoid damaging it and reducing its effectiveness). There are no definitive studies to confirm that FFP3 masks (98% filtering efficiency) better protect against coronavirus. To keep it clean, it is recommended to put on an external surgical mask. The half mask with filter is capable of being cleaned and disinfected after use (see the manufacturer's instructions to avoid damaging it and reducing its effectiveness). There are no definitive studies to confirm that FFP3 masks (98% filtering efficiency) better protect against coronavirus. To keep it clean, it is recommended to put on an external surgical mask. The half mask with filter is capable of being cleaned and disinfected

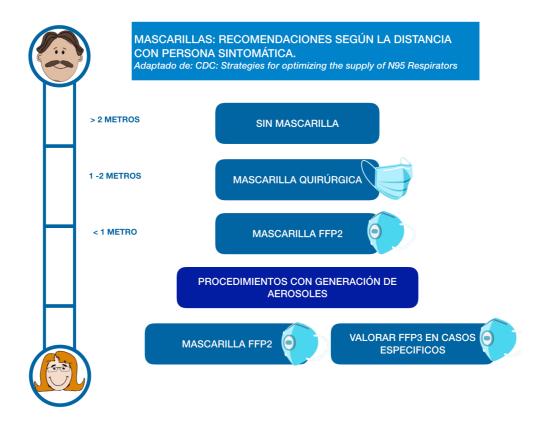


Table 1. Use of masks depending on the distance with a symptomatic.



§ Gloves:

They should always be used as usual in daily clinical activity. For cleaning and disinfection tasks it is better to use thick gloves, more resistant to breakage.

§ Eye and face protection:

Eye protection should be worn when there is a risk of contamination of the eyes from splashes or drops (eg, blood, body fluids, secretions, and saliva). Eye protectors certified based on the UNE- standard EN 166: 2002 for protection against liquids can be integral goggles against drops or face shields against splashes.

§ Protective clothes:

The usual work clothes and footwear must be exclusive for work, avoiding the use of street clothes or footwear in the office. It is important to avoid wearing rings, bracelets, pendants, watches or other items, since they behave like reservoirs of COVID 19. In case of anticipation of splashes or generation of aerosols, the use of a cap and a waterproof disposable gown is recommended above the usual work clothes (UNE-EN-14126 standard). The use of clogs and shoe covers is recommended.

§ Placement and withdrawal of PPE:

Tables 2 and 3 show the appropriate sequence for the placement and removal of the PPE.



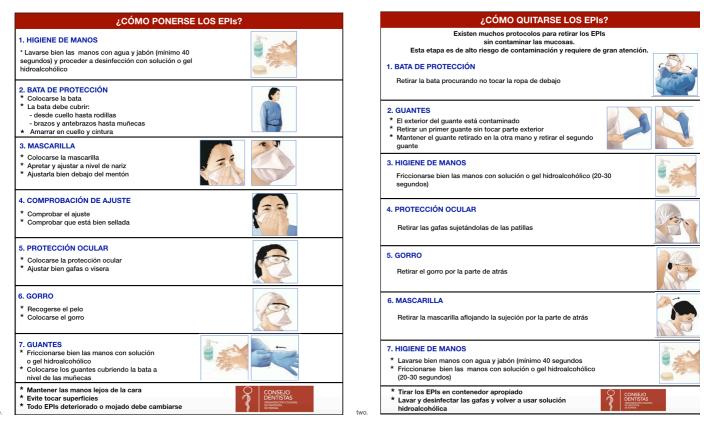


Table 2. PPE Placement

Table 3. Withdrawal of PPE

§ General hygiene measures: hand washing and gel disinfection

hydroalcoholic

Since the beginning of the pandemic, the enormous importance of proper hand washing with soap and water has been emphasized,

followed by disinfection with a hydroalcoholic gel (or solution). Tables 4 and 5 review the sequence of both procedures.



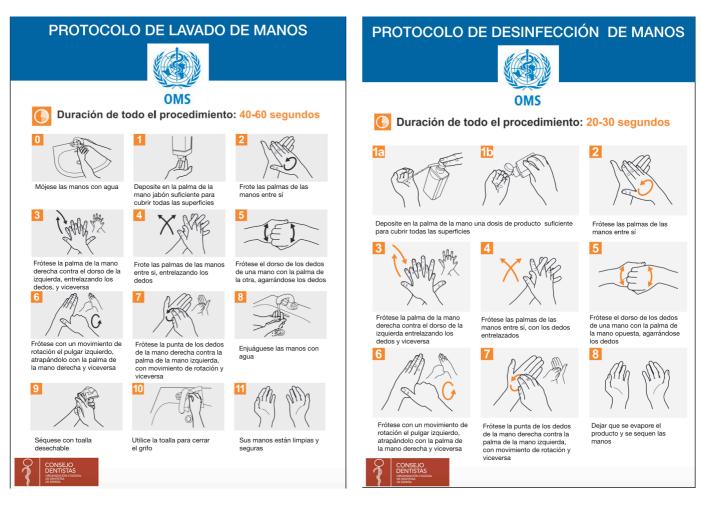


Table 4. Hand washing

Table 5. Use of hydroalcoholic gel

2.3. BEFORE RESTART:

After the partial or total interruption of clinical activity due to the situation created, it is necessary to adopt 3 types of measures (Table 6):

§ Checking the health status of clinic staff

It seems evident that it is essential to ensure that the health status of all clinic staff (starting with the dentist) allows them to return to their jobs with the appropriate guarantees for this. The Ministry of Health has established protocols for the reinstatement of health personnel to their jobs, not without a strong response from health organizations. These protocols are currently in the expert review phase, so it is advisable, when the time comes for effective reinstatement, to consult with the respective occupational health services.



§ Basic training of the dental team on the new protocols to adopt

Due to the necessary adoption of new measures in the organization of clinical activity, derived from COVID-19, it is very important that all clinic staff receive basic training in these aspects. For this, from the General Council of Dentists of Spain a Power-Point presentation is being created in which the most relevant recommended points are specified (it will be available in a few days). It is convenient that all the clinic staff receive this training (ideally online) before restarting the activity. Likewise, it is recommended to carry out a simulation prior to the arrival of patients, in order to verify the normal operation of the new measures adopted.

§ Planning, start-up and supervision of new protocols adopted at the clinic

The head of the clinic must ensure the implementation of the new protocols in his clinic, as well as the adequate degree of knowledge that the staff under his responsibility have on them.



Table 6: What to check before restarting the activity?







3. SPECIFIC MEASURES IN THE DENTAL CLINIC

3.1. BEFORE CARE

§ Patient questionnaire when making an appointment (telephone triage)

In the early stages of reincorporation, it is still advisable to carry out a prior telephone triage when the patient calls to request an appointment. If you go directly to the clinic to request the appointment (undesirable), the same procedure will be followed. This process allows us to select, through a simple questionnaire, which patients can a priori present greater risks and adopt the agreed protocol. The presence of any or some of the following symptoms should be investigated by telephone: temperature above 37.5°C, dry cough, pharyngeal pain, nasal congestion, fatigue, headache, myalgia, hypogeusia, anosmia, diarrhea and digestive discomfort or general malaise. The presence of these signs or symptoms with elevated temperature, it should lead to warn the patient of a possible contagion so that he immediately communicates it to his doctor. In the presence of signs, even with normal temperature, indicate to the patient that it is preferable to delay the treatments until at least 14 days have elapsed since their disappearance (except for emergencies that must be attended to) and recommend the patient to go to their family to assess their final diagnosis. The same procedure will be followed with patients who come to the clinic directly, clearly explaining the reasons for these measures (Table 7). indicate to the patient that it is preferable to delay the treatments until at least 14 days have elapsed since their disappearance (except for emergencies that must be attended to) and recommend the patient to see his family doctor to assess his definitive diagnosis. The same procedure will be followed with patients who come to the clinic directly, clearly explaining the reasons for these measures (Table 7).

- Do you have a fever or have you had it in the last 14 days (temperature> 37.5°)?
- Have you had a cough or any other respiratory signs in the past 14 days?
- Have you had or are you having diarrhea or other digestive upsets in the last 14 days?
- Do you have or have you felt very tired or upset in the last 14 days?
- Have you noticed a loss of sense of smell or smell in the last 14 days?
- Have you been in contact or living with someone suspected or confirmed of coronavirus?
- Has the COVID-19 disease passed?
- If the disease has passed, are you still in quarantine?



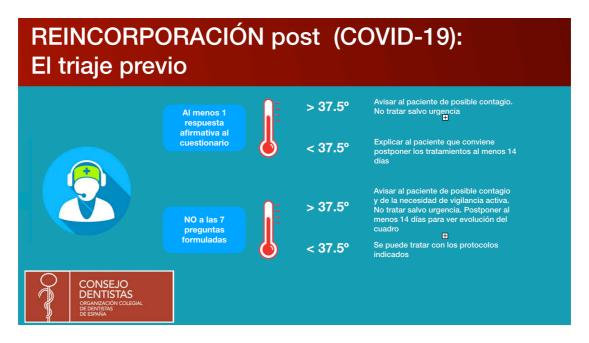


Table 7. Decision making in previous triage

§ Dental emergency concept

It is important to have clearly defined what is to be understood as urgent dental postponement, in order to be able to be effective in decision-making (appointment or not to the patient). In those in which the appointment is indicated due to urgency, this should be understood in the cases in which it exists: severe inflammation, post-surgical or post-traumatic bleeding, severe dental trauma or the presence of severe dental pain. Table 8 recalls the steps that must be followed to filter urgent care cases.



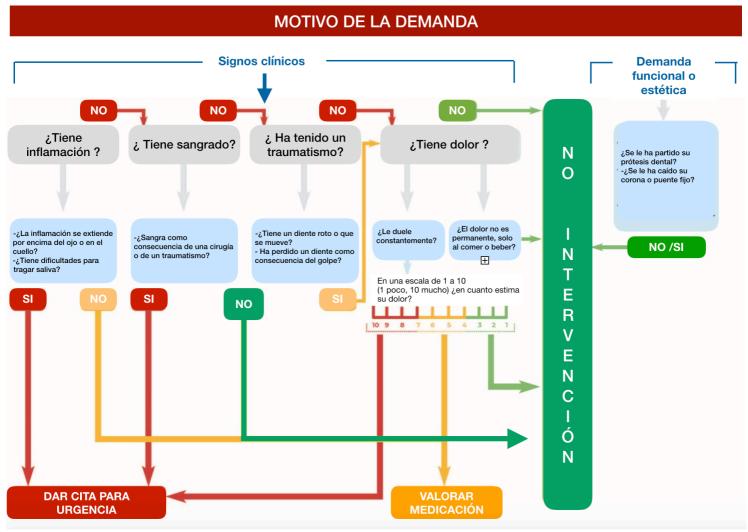


Table 8. Categories of dental emergencies and decision algorithm

It is important, for each of the possible emergency situations, to have clearly established the severity criteria. Tables 9 and 10 show those currently proposed and used by the French Dental Association (ADF).



	CRITERIOS CLÍNICOS ORIENTATIVOS DE GRAVEDAD PARA CRIBADO DE SITUACIONES CLÍNICAS URGENTES DOLOR, INFLAMACIÓN/INFECCIÓN	MARQUE
œ	Dolor que no ha remitido con analgésicos habituales recetados después de 48 horas de tratamiento	
OOLOR	Dolor que no remite con analgésicos potentes (tipo tramadol, codeina) después de 24 horas de tratamiento.	
Δ	Intensidad del dolor referida subjetivamente por el paciente > 7 en escala de Likert	
	Presencia de trismo (dificultad para abrir completamente la boca)	
ión/ ón	Tumefacción submandibular o sublingual con dificultad o dolor a la deglución	
MAG	Tumefacción que se ha extendido al ojo (párpado inflamado, dificultad para abrir o cerrar el ojo)	
INFLAMACIÓN/ INFECCIÓN	Eritema o tumefacción que se extiende hacía el cuello	
	Fiebre o sensación de astenia	

Table 9: Severity criteria for screening in the presence of pain, inflammation or infection

	CRITERIOS CLÍNICOS ORIENTATIVOS DE GRAVEDAD PARA CRIBADO DE SITUACIONES CLÍNICAS URGENTES TRAUMATISMO, HEMORRAGIA	MARQUE
TRAUMATISMO	Avulsión dentaria (expulsión total del diente fuera del alveolo)	
	Luxación severa que dificulta el cierre de la boca (riesgo de ingestión del diente)	
	Exposición pulpar con dolor intenso	
	Herida en boca que requiere sutura	
	Traumatismo con sospecha de fractura mandibular	
AGIA	Paciente mayor , solo, dependiente, con riesgo de que no siga las indicaciones que le damos	
HEMORRAGIA	Hemorragia que persiste sin mejoría después de 20 minutos de compresión	
	Paciente con hemorragia y bajo tratamiento anticoagulante o riesgo de complicación sistémica	

Table 10: Severity criteria for screening for trauma or hemorrhage