

香港特別行政區政府
衛生署

香港灣仔皇后大道東 213 號
胡忠大廈 17 及 21 樓



THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HONG KONG
SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

WU CHUNG HOUSE, 17TH & 21ST FLOORS
213 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI
HONG KONG

本署檔號 OUR REF.: (23) in L/M (53) to DH/DSHO/1-90/1 Pt. 2

來函檔號 YOUR REF.:

電話 TEL.: 2961 8915

圖文傳真 FAX.: 2573 6853

27 January 2020

Dear Dentist,

Update on Novel Coronavirus Infection

We would like to draw your attention to the current situation of infection with the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV). The Government has activated the Emergency Response Level of the Government's Preparedness and Response Plan for Novel Infectious Disease of Public Health Significance on 25 January 2020. As the situation evolves rapidly, please refer to the latest position as announced by the Centre for Health Protection (CHP), Department of Health: <https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/index.html>.

We would like to strongly recommend the dental profession to strictly adhere to the infection control principles and measures relevant to the dental practice as promulgated by the CHP. Proper wearing of surgical facemasks, personal protective equipment, and hand hygiene should be strictly observed. Moreover, the following measures are highly recommended:

1. Pre-treatment mouth rinse with chlorhexidine;
2. Use of high volume suction; and
3. Rubber dam isolation for all aerosol generating procedures.

In addition to standard precautions, administrative control is important to identify possible infectious cases and prevent the transmission of the disease in the dental setting. Temperature should be taken, questions about relevant symptoms, traveling and contact history should be asked for attending patients and clients. **Patients with fever or any relevant symptoms MUST wear face masks and be recommended to attend medical care immediately. No aerosol generating procedures should be provided to them.**

In situation when there is evidence or imminent risk of sustained community level outbreaks, the following additional measures are highly recommended:

1. Postpone all non-urgent treatment;
2. Suspend all aerosol generating procedures unless rubber dam isolation can be applied.

*We build a healthy Hong Kong and
aspire to be an internationally renowned public health authority*

When there is evidence of pandemic of the Novel Coronavirus Infection, private dental settings should be considered the risk of widespread transmission and limit their service to minimal level.

Thank you very much for your continuous support and collaborative effort to help in the prevention and control of infectious diseases.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wiley Lam". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

(Dr. Wiley LAM)
for Director of Health