

### COVID-19 Update for CDHA members May 8, 2020

# **CDHA is Here to Help**

Read our latest updates: <u>www.cdha.ca/safetyalerts</u> Email us: <u>alerts@cdha.ca</u>

Dear member,

### **COVID-19 Pandemic CDHA Member Surveys**

CDHA invites all members to participate in a short survey assessing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the profession. Your responses will help prioritize CDHA's professional development activities and determine the need for new professional practice resources to support you in your return to work. CDHA has also crafted unique surveys for independent dental hygienists and educators. All surveys close on Friday, May 15 at noon ET.

# **Advocacy for PPE**

CDHA developed a template letter and encouraged provincial/territorial dental hygiene associations to do direct outreach with their respective ministers of health to raise awareness of the PPE needs for oral health care workers. Provincial dental hygiene associations have been sending communications to their governments stressing the importance of an adequate supply of PPE to ensure the safety of clients, families, communities and oral health care workers. CDHA sent a letter to provincial health system leaders in Ontario.

# **Financial Assistance for Dental Hygienists**

CDHA recognizes the incredible challenges that our members have faced during the COVID-19 crisis and we are working to support our members in every manner possible. Watch Monday for a special announcement on a support fund being launched, with a donation from Crest + Oral-B, to provide financial assistance for **a few** CDHA members that have been **significantly** impacted by the COVID-19 crisis.

> THE CANADIAN DENTAL HYGIENISTS ASSOCIATION L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES HYGIÉNISTES DENTAIRES

#### **COVID-19 Video: Considerations for Financial Management, Wellbeing and Delivering Services as a Healthcare Professional During the Pandemic**

During this <u>expert panel discussion</u>, learn about considerations for healthcare professionals when returning to practice.

#### **COMING SOON: FREE Webinar on Infection Control**

Dr. Mia Geisinger and Katrina M. Sanders, RDH, will discuss the "invisible" risks within the dental operatory. Evaluate SARS-CoV-2, its underlying virology, and transmissibility. Gather up-to-date infection control recommendations and look at the emerging evidence that may become integrated into our infection control repertoire as we move forward.

# **COMING SOON: Return to Work Guidance**

Provincial/Territorial dental hygiene regulatory guidelines for return to work have been published by <u>Alberta</u>, <u>Saskatchewan</u> and <u>Manitoba</u>. CDHA will continue to share provincial regulatory guidelines as they are released.

BMS has shared a helpful <u>document</u> that outlines a number of considerations for workplaces beginning to re-introduce staff and patients into their facilities.

Stay tuned for the release of interim guidance to support your return to practice. A dedicated webpage, videos, resources, and tip-sheets will advise on best practices for a safe return to the dental office.

CDHA will continue to provide updates as they become available.

Please be well and take care of yourselves in this difficult time. Everyone can do their part to slow COVID-19.