

MH 34:24/8

MOH Circular No. 242/2020

24 December 2020

All Dental Clinics
All Registered Dental Practitioners

GUIDANCE ON PROVISION OF DENTAL CARE IN PHASE THREE OF SAFE RE-OPENING

This Circular provides updated guidance to ensure that efforts to curb COVID-19 community transmission taken are sustained as we move into Phase Three of re-opening.

- 2. The provision of dental care should continue with guidance to minimise aerosol generation. Staff performing or assisting in aerosol generating procedures (AGPs) should wear full PPE, along with other environmental controls (MOH Circular No. 162/2020 dated 19 June 2020).
- 3. Resting interval of 15 minutes between patients will be lifted with effect **28 December 2020**. Dental clinics should continue to ensure that patients are scheduled in a manner that allows for proper disinfection of operatories and to prevent potential cross infection between patients.
- 4. Dental clinics are advised to continue seeing patients by appointment basis and ensuring that crowds do not congregate within or outside its premises. Patient numbers should be kept to a manageable case load commensurate with the prevailing safe distancing and safe management measures.
- 5. As per MOH Circular No. 229/2020 (implementation of TraceTogether-only SafeEntry (ToS)), all healthcare institutions (HCIs) and related services will be required to implement ToS once it becomes mandatory. HCIs and related services should only allow individuals who have successfully checked into SafeEntry using their TT App or TT Token to enter the clinic premise.
- 6. All incoming patients must be screened at all visits, whether it is a first-time or a repeat visit. The number of accompanying persons should be kept to a minimum and dental clinics are reminded to adhere to the most current guidance on the number of accompanying persons. Patients should consult with the doctor alone if possible.
- 7. Dental clinics and practitioners should continue to comply with infection prevention and control protocols (including use of mask and appropriate hand hygiene for all healthcare workers and patients, pre-procedural mouthrinse, effective suction, use of rubber dam, etc.), donning and doffing of appropriate PPE, observing safe distancing (at least one metre apart) and safe workplace management measures, as well as any other prevailing guidance from MOH.
- 8. Please ensure that all staff are aware of the contents of this Circular and comply with the directives at all times.











For clarification on this Circular, please email Dental@moh.gov.sg (attention to Dr Carolina Un Lam).

A/PROF CHNG CHAI KIAT CHIEF DENTAL OFFICER MINISTRY OF HEALTH









