

Dear patients

In light of the current situation regarding the spread of the novel coronavirus infection, we are requesting dental institutions to consider postponement of dental treatments, regular dental examinations, house call dental services, and the like that are of little urgency and where serious errors cannot occur even in case of such postponement.

In addition, in cases where treatment is postponed, we may provide guidance over the phone rather than face-to-face treatment. We request your understanding and cooperation.

However, with regard to the urgency of treatment, letting pain and swelling go untreated may lead to aggravating a patient's condition and affecting their whole body.

Periodic management of periodontal diseases is also related to the general condition of patients, and there is concern that aspiration pneumonia and other conditions may occur due to poor oral hygiene among elderly persons especially at home and in nursing facilities.

In case a situation continues where a person does not wear dentures and cannot chew, it can cause that person's overall health to be compromised.

As explained above, the urgency of treatment varies depending on a patient's condition, **so please consult your dentist first.**

Avoiding an irregular diet, keeping your mouth clean and thereby reducing the number of bacteria can help prevent aspiration pneumonia and viral diseases. Maintain oral hygiene in such ways as brushing your teeth after each meal.

Although dentists and staff are at high risk of infection at dental institutions, there have so far been no reports of patients becoming infected through dental treatment.

We will work to protect the health of all citizens by implementing infection prevention measures more thoroughly.

Japan Dental Association

<https://www.jda.or.jp/corona/>