

UPDATE Message to Licensed Denturists
Covid-19 – Phase 1 Reintegration Approach
Effective April 20, 2020

The Council of the Denturist Society of Saskatchewan met April 16, 2020, to discuss the current Covid-19 situation and have also consulted extensively with the Ministry of Health to have no contact repairs that impede mastication to fall within the definition of “Urgent Services”, which is stated in the [Order](#).

As such, the Denturist Society of Saskatchewan as a Phase 1 reintegration approach, will allow ***“Repairs that impede mastication, no intraoral contact, requires no patient contact and doors remain closed to public at all times (aesthetic repairs are not recommended)”***. This will be effective April 20, 2020 and Licensed Denturists must follow the mandatory outline and procedures as referred to below and attached.

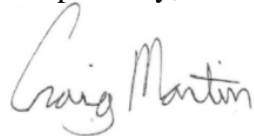
Phase 1 – Repairs that impede mastication, no intraoral contact, requires no patient contact and doors remain closed to public at all times (aesthetic repairs are not recommended). PATIENTS AT NO POINT MUST ENTER YOUR OFFICE – THE MANDATORY OUTLINE AND PROCEDURES ARE ATTACHED.

The attached mandatory outline and procedures MUST BE COMPLIED WITH or you could face a fine and/or a conduct hearing and discipline meeting (in accordance with our [Regulatory By-Laws](#)) if the Denturist Society of Saskatchewan knowingly becomes aware that you are not following this outline and procedures, which could result in suspension or revocation of your license together with a fine.

The Denturist Society of Saskatchewan’s Council is meeting weekly to assess the situation and will update all Licensed Denturists following these meetings.

If you have any questions and/or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the office directly or any one of the Council members, the contact information can be found by [clicking here](#). We can also be reached by telephone at 1-855-633-6875.

Respectfully,



Craig Martin, DD
Registrar

Attachments: Mandatory Outline and Procedures for Covid-19 – Phase 1 Reintegration Approach, Effective April 20, 2020

MANDATORY OUTLINE AND PROCEDURES – PHASE 1

Covid-19 – Phase 1 Reintegration Approach Effective April 20, 2020

Mandatory Closure, in effect if conditions of Phase 1 are not met. (March 20th, 2020 Communique), (March 27th, 2020 Communique) and (April 3rd, 2020 Communique)

Telephone/teleconferencing availability for patients for triage purposes.

In cases where you are providing services to patients via electronic methods then these services can be billed accordingly using procedure code for a Professional Consultation (70050), which is to be used for an assessment or triage of the patients' emergency need and to determine next steps of whether an in person visit is necessary, additional information can be found by [clicking here](#).

Phase 1 – Repairs that impede mastication, no intraoral contact, requires no patient contact and doors remain closed to public at all times (aesthetic repairs are not recommended).

The following applies to the office and all Personnel in the office:

MUST maintain a 6-foot distance between yourself and others at all times.

MUST maintain infection prevention and control standards ([link](#)), if at any time these standards cannot be maintained and proper personal protective equipment (lab coats, gloves, glasses with side protection and masks) is not available then your office must revert to mandatory closure, this information can be found at www.saskdenturists.com.

MUST maintain proper record keeping procedures ([link](#)).

The following applies to the Denturist responsible for providing the repair services:

This outline and procedures MUST BE COMPLIED WITH or you could face a fine and/or a conduct hearing and discipline meeting (in accordance with our [Regulatory By-Laws](#)) if the Denturist Society of Saskatchewan knowingly becomes aware that you are not following this outline and procedures, which could result in suspension or revocation of your license together with a fine.

Repair Procedures (Must Be Complied With)

1. Patient Contacts Office
2. Office conducts a telephone/teleconference assessment asking the following questions:
 - Did you travel or fly recently?
 - Do you have a new (worsening) cough?
 - Do you have a sore throat?
 - Do you have a fever (over 38 ° C)?
 - Are you having trouble breathing?

If the patient answers yes to anyone of these questions, then the repair **MUST NOT** be completed and suggest that the patient consult their doctor or complete the Government of Saskatchewan's Self-Assessment Tool at:

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/2019-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-self-assessment>.

If the patient answers no to the above questions then you may proceed to the assessment of the repair to determine if it falls within the Phase 1 definition above.

3. If a repair is eligible under Phase 1 then:

- a. Patient is directed to clean denture with soap and water then place in a clean sealable plastic bag or disposable plastic container without any other materials i.e. paper towel.
- b. Coordinate a time for the patient to drop off the repair at a drop off point outside of your office or by a pick-up system where you would have no direct contact with the patient i.e. a table outside of your office or picking up from designated location.

You **MUST** maintain a 6-foot distance between yourself and others at all times.

You **MUST** not use your mail slot or drop box because of cross contamination.

The patient **MUST NOT** enter your office at any time.

- c. You would pick up the repair wearing personal protective equipment: lab coat, gloves, glasses (with side protection) and mask.
- d. Return to office and disinfect repair.
- e. Remove gloves, perform hand hygiene and replace gloves.
- f. Wipe down and disinfect surfaces that were touched returning to office.
- g. Remove gloves, perform hand hygiene and replace gloves.
- h. Complete repair maintaining proper infection prevention and control standards while wearing personal protective equipment: lab coat, gloves, glasses (with side protection) and mask.
- i. Place disinfected repair in a clean and disinfected sealed bag, which can contain water or mouthwash.
- j. Disinfect work surfaces and sterilize all instruments used in the laboratory. Any instruments that cannot be sterilized should be disinfected.
- k. Remove personal protective equipment: gloves, glasses (with side protection) and mask, disinfect glasses and perform hand hygiene.
- l. Coordinate a time with the patient to pick up the repair at a pick up point outside of your office or using a pick up system where you would have no direct contact with the patient i.e. a table outside of your office or picking up from a designate location.

You **MUST** maintain a 6-foot distance between yourself and others at all times.

You **MUST** not use your mail slot or drop box because of cross contamination.

The patient **MUST NOT** enter your office at any time.

- m. When dropping off repair you must wear personal protective equipment: lab coat, gloves, glasses (with side protection) and mask.

- n. Return to office remove gloves, perform hand hygiene, replace gloves and disinfect surfaces that were touched returning to office.
- o. Remove personal protective equipment: gloves, glasses (with side protection) and mask, disinfect glasses and perform hand hygiene.
- p. Coordinate a time with patient to follow-up on repair (preferably same day as pick-up) and advise them if a sore spot occurs to remove denture until it resolves but to contact your office to advise, so that when you are able to you can book them an appointment.

Payment / Record Keeping Procedures (Must Be Complied With)

1. No Physical Payments (i.e. Cash, Cheques, Interact), your office must coordinate an alternative payment with the patient i.e. Visa/Mastercard over the phone, e-transfers or another method that does not involve direct patient contact i.e. direct billing to insurance carrier.
2. You must follow proper record keeping guidelines and you must document the severity of the repair to confirm it falls within Phase 1.
3. There **MUST** be no submissions to the insurance carrier other than the repair itself. For further clarification, there **MUST** be **NO** preauthorization's for other procedures because no intraoral examination has taken place.