

Question:

Thoughts on triaging patients. Would you recommend a limited Urgent Care walk in time vs. attempting to Schedule all patients? Most patients are homeless with limited transportation.

Resources:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/dental-settings.html>

Encourage Physical Distancing

Dental healthcare delivery requires close physical contact between patients and DHCP. However, when possible, [physical distancing](#) (maintaining 6 feet between people) is an important strategy to prevent SARS-CoV-2 transmission. Examples of how physical distancing can be implemented for patients include:

- Limiting visitors to the facility to those essential for the patient's physical or emotional well-being and care (e.g., care partner, parent).
 - Encourage use of alternative mechanisms for patient and visitor interactions such as video-call applications on cell phones or tablets.
- Scheduling appointments to minimize the number of people in the waiting room.
 - Patients may opt to wait in a personal vehicle or outside the dental facility where they can be contacted by mobile phone when it is their turn for dental care.
 - Minimize overlapping dental appointments.

Arranging seating in waiting rooms so patients can sit at least 6 feet apart.