



# Arkansas Department of Health

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Governor Asa Hutchinson  
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## Steps to take if a staff member tests positive for COVID-19

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All patients and dental health care personnel (DHCP) are to be screened when arriving to the dental facility. A daily log for monitoring purposes should be part of office protocols in the event that contact tracing is necessary if a team member, or patient, report a positive COVID-19 test result. A sample log is provided.

Any patient or staff member that reports with a fever and signs or symptoms related to COVID-19 should be sent to the nearest testing facility.

- DHCP should report as a healthcare worker to ensure a more rapid test result
- A patient that tests positive should not be treated for 14 days *unless* reporting pain that requires immediate attention;
  - Such an emergency patient may be treated if all precautions are taken as outlined previously in the ADH guidelines;
  - End of the day treatment is encouraged to further restrict potential viral spread.
- If a DHCP tests positive for COVID-19
  - Remain in isolation until cleared;
  - Isolation time will be clarified by case investigator for the Department of Health;
  - A letter of release will be delivered to positive DHCP once cleared from isolation.

The general assumption is that all DHCPs are following the ADH guidelines and protocols for wearing the appropriate PPE for their work position. Should a DHCP test positive for COVID-19, it is advisable that other dental team members that may have been in contact with an unprotected exposure (full PPE) should consider testing as well. Any other positive cases need to self-quarantine for 14 days. Continue monitoring for symptoms and increase temperature check intervals at arrival, mid-day and at the conclusion of the day for the next 10 days following the report of a positive test result.

Questions or clarification:

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