

# COVID-19

## Dental Emergency Protocol

This document is designed to serve as a guide for managing dental emergencies in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

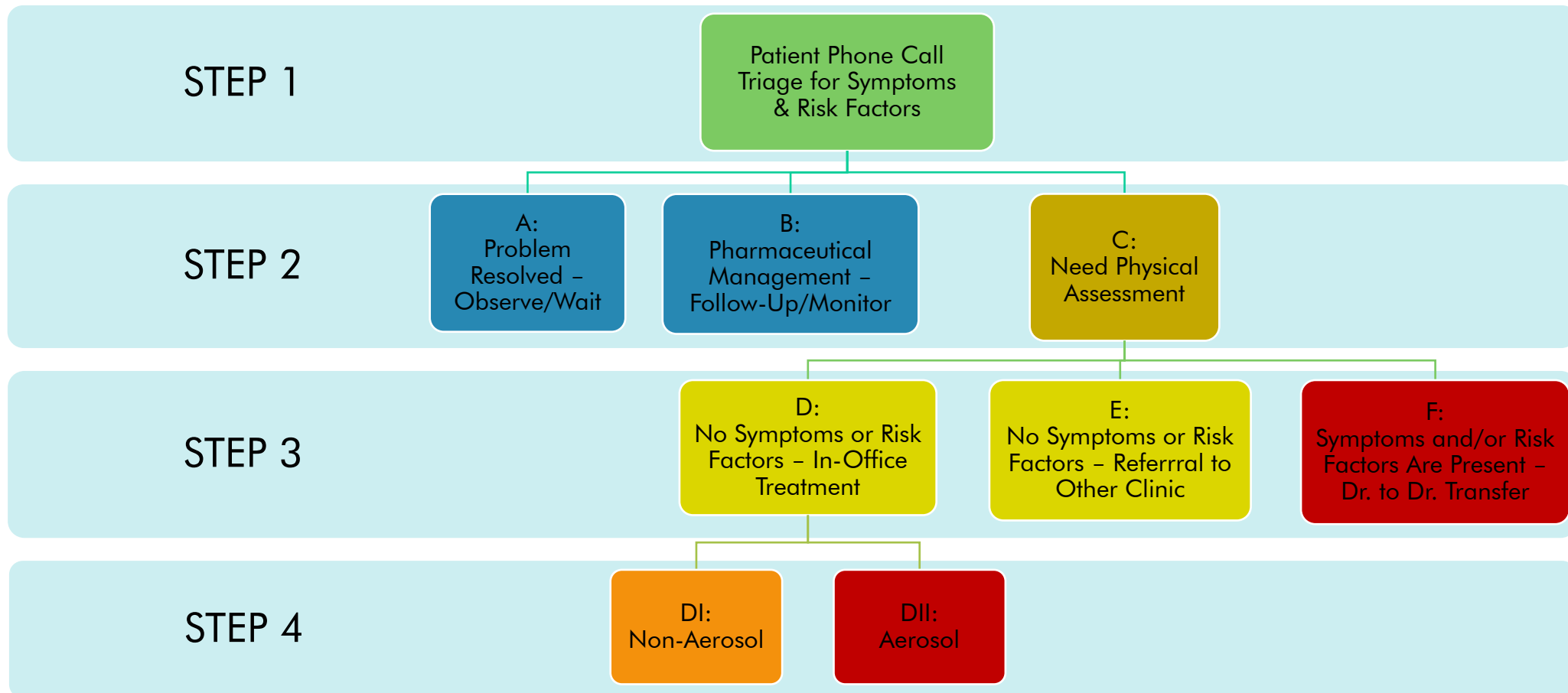


### WHAT IS A DENTAL EMERGENCY?

Emergency dental treatment includes treatment of oral-facial trauma, significant infection, prolonged bleeding, pain which cannot be managed by over the counter medications, or management of known/high risk malignancy.

## Dental Emergency Protocol

The algorithm outlined below is designed to allow Dentists to properly triage patients. Please see further details about each step below the chart.



## STEP 1:

### Patient Phone Call Triage for Symptoms & Risk Factors

#### A: ☐ COVID-19 Symptoms

Ask a patient if they have *any* of the following:

- Fever > 38C
- Cough
- Sore Throat
- Shortness of Breath
- Difficulty Breathing
- Flu-like symptoms
- Runny Nose

#### B: ☐ COVID-19 Risk Factors

Ask a patient if they have experienced *any* of the following:

- close personal contact (w/o PPE) with a suspected or lab confirmed COVID-19 patient within the past 2 weeks
- travel outside of Canada (by air, car, bus or otherwise) in the past 2 weeks

## STEP 2:

### A. Problem Managed via Remote Dentistry

### B. Pharmaceutical Management

- Appropriate clinical judgement
- Follow-up and monitor as needed
- Refer to the [Pharmacological Management](#) Flowcharts for Adults and Children

### C. Need Physical Assessment in Office

- See Step 3 for the following options:
  - No Symptoms or Risk Factors Present
    - Assess/treat patient in your own office
    - Refer to another Clinic
  - Symptoms and/or Risk Factors Are Present
    - Doctor to doctor transfer

## STEP 3:

### D. No Symptoms or Risk Factors Present: In-Office Treatment

- See Step 4 for Non-Aerosol or Aerosol Generating

### E. No Symptoms or Risk Factors Present: Referral to Other Clinic

- Offices that are only doing telephone triage need to refer **Doctor to Doctor** directly

### F. Symptoms and/or Risk Factors Are Present

- Patients with any symptoms or risk-factors who indicate they have emergency or painful conditions should be managed only after direct **Doctor to Doctor** consultation; this may be with an endodontist, an OMFS or a Pediatric dentist.

## STEP 4:

### DI. Non-Aerosol

- Current IPC standards apply with proper PPE. This PPE includes gloves, surgical masks, and protective eyewear

### DII. Aerosol Generating

- Aerosol Generating Medical Procedures (AGMP) require current IPC and enhanced PPE. The enhanced PPE includes protective clothing, gloves, fitted N-95 masks (or equivalent as per [Health Canada](#)), appropriate protective eyewear or face shield.
  - **Assess & treat only as absolutely needed**
  - **Please ensure you follow these [PPE guidelines](#)**

\* The ADA&C [strongly recommends](#) that dentists limit AGMP  
They are a known high risk for COVID-19 transmission