

All indications are that the SDDA Annual Session will **not** be held due to restrictions on gatherings of large groups. The Governor's Executive Order (which extends through May 31, 2020) requires municipal governments to restrict public gatherings of 10 or more people. At this point in time the City of Sioux Falls has restricted group gatherings through April 22. We will make an "official" announcement if the City of Sioux Falls extends its restrictions through the dates of Annual Session, which is May 14-16, 2020.

The SDDA urges all members to care for the urgent and emergent needs of their patients or anyone calling in need of emergency dental care. If access to N-95 masks is an issue for you please contact us. Email Tia at tia@sddental.org.

We are concerned for your safety and that of your staff and patients. The ADA has excellent resources, including flow charts for patient care and guidance on minimizing the transmission of COVID-19: <https://www.ada.org/en>.

Although we are at the beginning of the exponential spread of the coronavirus in South Dakota the SDDA is working on strategies to get dentists back to work as quickly as possible. We have formed a task force that is developing recommendations for the South Dakota Department of Health that would allow dentists to care for patients sooner rather than creating a large backlog of urgent care in the weeks and months to follow. More information will follow as information becomes available.