

# The Denturist Association of Canada L'Association des denturologistes du Canada



## Member Associations membres

The Denturist Association of Newfoundland and Labrador • Denturist Society of Nova Scotia • The New Brunswick Denturists Society  
The Denturist Society of Prince Edward Island • L'Association des Denturologistes du Québec • The Denturist Association of Ontario  
The Denturist Association of Manitoba • The Denturist Society of Saskatchewan • The Denturist Association of Alberta  
The Denturist Association of British Columbia • Yukon Denturist Society



## **The Denturist Association of Canada (The DAC) Public Statement: Covid-19 & Denturists, August 24, 2020**

The Denturist Association of Canada, with the expressed support and endorsement of the Provincial & Territorial Association Members listed above, is issuing this public statement to bring awareness to Denturists and their role in the safe delivery of denture services to patients in Canada during the Covid-19 pandemic and after.

A Denturist is defined as an Oral Health Care Professional, who provides denture care directly to the public. A Denturist is part of an independent self-regulated profession who works with other oral health care providers to provide non-aerosol generating denture services directly to patients through chair side appointments and has the ability to fabricate these dentures in their on-site laboratories.

The Denturism profession is legislated in all Provinces & Territories in Canada as well as other countries. There are approximately 2,000 Denturists in Canada, which is seen as a world leader in this profession. At the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, Denturists across Canada closed their doors to non-essential and elective services. Some were able to continue to provide emergency services, as directed by provincial governments and under extreme infection prevention & control precautions. As restrictions were lifted in provinces, each Provincial & Territorial Denturist Regulatory Body released guidance documents that outlines additional precautions required in the implementation of Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) protocols as Denturists returned to practice amidst the Covid-19 pandemic. It is important to remember, that all Provincial & Territorial Denturist Regulatory Bodies follow the lead of the Canadian and Provincial Governments on the current status of Covid-19 within Canada and respect other international organizations. This includes the World Health Organization who recently released new guidelines for areas that have uncontrolled community transmission; however, this is not the case in Canada – these guidelines therefore do not have bearing on how Canada is currently responding to Covid-19 as it applies to the safe delivery of oral health care.

These guidance documents outline each step from the moment a patient contacts a clinic to the moment they leave, which includes vigilant screening processes, social distancing, full personal protective equipment, appointment spacing and reducing patient to patient contact in common areas together with all other necessary precautions such as hand hygiene, masking protocols, frequent cleaning etc.

Protecting the health and providing safe care to patients is at the forefront of the minds of all Canadian Denturists. The public can rest assured that the provision and safe delivery of denture services during the Covid-19 pandemic is based upon guidance documents that were developed in consultation with national & provincial health officers, infection prevention & control experts, Provincial & Territorial Denturist Regulatory Bodies, Provincial & Territorial Denturist Associations and other regulated health professions to ensure, to the best of our ability, a consistent messaging in these guidelines. These guidelines are being followed strictly and with vigilance by all Denturists to ensure the safety of patients and staff.

The Denturist Association of Canada recommends that patients contact their local Denturist for more details on what to expect at an upcoming visit; available care options; and what to do before coming in for an appointment. For more information please visit the websites of the [Provincial & Territorial Denturist Regulatory Bodies](#).

### **Who is The Denturist Association of Canada?**

The Denturist Association of Canada is the authoritative voice of Denturism in Canada representing all Provincial & Territorial Denturist Associations with over 2,000 practicing Denturists. Our mission is to pursue the advancement of the profession through education, communication amongst members, liaison with external agencies, and to encourage excellence in the provision of denture services to all Canadians.

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