



Tufts
UNIVERSITY

School of
Dental Medicine

**From the Office of Dr. Mary Jane Hanlon,
Associate Dean of Clinic Affairs**

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Good Afternoon Everyone,

Happy Friday. As the world becomes more concerned with the impact of the coronavirus, now known as COVID-19, I want to make sure that we are all taking the necessary precautions to care for ourselves and diminish the possible impact this may have on the US. Given the recent drop in the stock market since 2008 and the recent change of the global risk from High to VERY HIGH by WHO (World Health Organization), it is critically important that we follow our strict infection control protocols to minimize spread and exposure. Here are some important things to remember:

- The best way to protect ourselves from any virus is with repeat hand washing, especially before & after treating patients or in-between patient-care, if you deglove & step out of the operatory.
- Use hand sanitizers after touching door knobs.
- Additionally, stop yourself from touching your eyes, mouth or nose if you have not washed your hands.
- Clean all surfaces when you sit to eat & do not place food or fruits on surfaces that are not clean.
- Protect yourself & others when coughing & sneezing.

As you may be aware there have been concerns expressed about the general supply of masks in all healthcare settings.

We have tried to assure our pipeline for supplies is intact, but ask our community to please be judicious/safe about the use of masks.

In the meantime we ask all students/faculty to take the following into consideration:-

1. For non-aerosol generating procedures (eg exams, re-evaluations, post-operative exams etc) use regular masks with appropriate eye-protection/side shields.
2. Use masks with shields for procedures that generate aerosol.

I have also attached the recent communication from the ADA that Mass Dental sent out earlier today for your perusal if you are so inclined to learn more. Please enjoy a wonderful weekend.

Dr. Hanlon

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