



State of Vermont
Office of the Secretary of State

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BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

The Board has been asked to clarify whether travel quarantine requirements set out in [§ 7\(i\) of Governor Scott’s Amended and Restated Executive Order](#) apply to patients traveling to Vermont to obtain dental care. They do not. The Order exempts travel for “authorized ... health care.” Similarly, [Vermont Department of Health \(VDH\) online guidance](#) specifies that “[p]eople traveling for essential purposes do not need to quarantine. Essential travel includes travel for ... health care.”

Although quarantine is not required, patient travel history remains relevant. [VDH’s Interim Guidance for Resuming Dental Services in Vermont](#) specifies that:

Practitioners shall evaluate the necessity of the dental care based on urgency of dental problems. Priority should be given to care that was previously postponed and for conditions likely to lead to dental emergencies if treatment is deferred. Dental health care professionals should evaluate community transmission rates, testing availability, and PPE supply when deciding which services to provide, taking measures to minimize aerosol generation. (Underline added.)

To make the required evaluation, dental offices should screen all patients for travel history, among other factors, and if warranted, subsequent quarantine and test history. Screening should occur once when confirming an appointment and again on patient arrival.

Whether a service should be provided to a particular patient, at a particular time, is a question left to the reasoned clinical judgment of each dental clinician. The [prevalence map](#) governing non-essential travel to Vermont is a useful tool that should inform decisions to provide or defer care.

This clarification construes State guidance current as of the date of approval. It will yield to any subsequent change in that guidance.

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