



District of Columbia  
DENTAL SOCIETY

# NEWSLETTER

February 2021, Vol. 67, No. 2



**Dr. Ladan Basiri**

### **Letter from the DC Dental Society President Ladan Basiri, MA, DMD**

“Success is not final, failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts.”

-Sir Winston Churchill

This quote cannot be more apropos to being a dentist during a respiratory virus pandemic – and continue we shall! We will work together, connect, and communicate to sustain our Society and allow it to thrive, all the while asking ourselves: am I doing all that I can to help my Society during this Pandemic? Both the Society and the foundation rely on member financial support and engagement. You, our members, are the Society’s heartbeat – from our educational events to our advocacy work to our community service events, we need your support and engagement.

For our young members to get to know our more seasoned members, participation and engagement are critical. You can volunteer, bring a friend to our virtual or, in the future, hybrid monthly meetings, and nominate yourself or a friend to serve on a committee and move up to leadership positions. Any contribution, no matter how big or small, matters. You all have fresh, innovative ideas. We can help you connect to other members by starting new DCDS programs such as, small online study groups and social media groups, to get to know each other, exchange ideas, develop useful leadership skills, and make lifelong career connections. Making DCDS a part of your professional journey is a valuable step forward, and I assure you that you will not regret the friendships, sense of community, and new knowledge that you acquire.

**(Continued on Page 3)**

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Cover Photo: Students of the Howard University College of Dentistry attend the 2020 National Signing Day event held virtually.

# CDC Extends Interval Between Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Doses to 6 Weeks

Excerpt from the CDC Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the United States:

*The mRNA COVID-19 vaccine series consist of two doses administered intramuscularly:*

*Pfizer-BioNTech (30 µg, 0.3 ml each): 3 weeks (21 days) apart*

*Moderna (100 µg, 0.5 ml): 1 month (28 days) apart*

*Persons should not be scheduled to receive the second dose earlier than recommended (i.e., 3 weeks [Pfizer-BioNTech] or 1 month [Moderna]). However, second doses administered within a grace period of 4 days earlier than the recommended date for the second dose are still considered valid. Doses inadvertently administered earlier than the grace period should not be repeated.*

*The second dose should be administered as close to the recommended interval as possible. However, if it is not feasible to adhere to the recommended interval, the second dose of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines may be scheduled for administration up to 6 weeks (42 days) after the first dose. There are currently limited data on efficacy of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines administered beyond this window. If the second dose is administered beyond these intervals, there is no need to restart the series.*

*Vaccine administration errors should be reported to the [Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System \(VAERS\)](#).*

[Read the full guidance from the CDC.](#)

## Safeway to Accept Walk-Ins for Second Dose at 4 Locations

Effective immediately, the following locations conducting vaccinations for Safeway are accepting walk-ins for the second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine during the times listed. **Be sure to bring your CDC Vaccination Card, ID and insurance card. If you are over 65, please bring your Medicare Part B card.**

Hattie Holmes Senior Wellness Center - 324 Kennedy St NW, Washington, DC

- Open for walk-ins daily **Tuesday through Saturday, 9am-6pm**

Model Cities Senior Wellness Center - 1901 Evarts St NE, Washington, DC

- Open for walk-ins daily **Tuesday through Saturday, 9am-6pm**

Washington Senior Wellness Center - 3001 Alabama Ave SE, Washington, DC

- Open for walk-ins daily **Tuesday through Saturday, 9am-6pm**

Safeway Pharmacy at Capitol Hill - 415 14th St SE, Washington, DC

- Open for walk-ins **only on Monday, 2/8/21 and 2/15/21, 10am-6pm**

Questions about vaccinations through Safeway should be [directed to Paula Smith](#). For additional information on how to schedule a COVID-19 vaccine appointment in DC, visit the [DCDS COVID-19 web page](#).

For our members newer and older, renewing your membership and encouraging at least one colleague to become a new member shows DCDS and the ADA our appreciation and gratitude for having our backs during this turbulent pandemic. We have all been beneficiaries of the support and advocacy during the pandemic, and things would have been a lot more difficult without the help of our amazing organizations. It has been heart-warming for each of us to know that we are not alone.

This is exactly the time and place to do our part for our profession and showcase our care and support for our organizations and for each other. By doing nothing, nothing will be done! Please let us get to know you and hear your ideas, participate in DCDS meetings and gatherings, be an agent of change, and help us achieve your Society's strategic goals. The monthly meetings are a membership benefit, and your participation encourages us all to strive to provide you with higher quality and more frequent programming. I am always elated when I see new names participating in monthly meetings, but we can still drastically improve member participation, particularly to show the speakers that everyone has worked hard to bring in the audience that they deserve.

Renew your ADA/ DCDS membership online [following this link](#). It is very easy and takes only a few minutes of your time. If you need an invoice to renew, please contact us at [info@dcdental.org](mailto:info@dcdental.org) for a prompt response.

Nominations for DCDS and foundation awards as well as open board and committee positions are now being accepted [via our online form](#). The list and description of these committees and awards is available on our [website](#). Please reach out if you have an interest serving on any of the following committees: Awards & Nominating, Constitution and Bylaws, Education, New Dentist Subcommittee, Membership, Symposium, Professional Standards, Public Policy. Please see the newsletter for lists and links to the nomination forms. I hope to see many of you start 2021 by connecting with us, asking a friend/colleague to join our Society, and/or nominating yourself or a colleague for awards and available positions. The deadline for nominations is February 26th, and the awards will be presented either in person or virtually in June.

This year has had an eventful beginning. January was the [deadliest month for the Coronavirus](#), we have a new president in the White House, vaccine distribution has continued – despite a shortage of vaccines in DMV – and DCDS has been extremely busy. On January 12th, we had our monthly business meeting where we announced the result of our online election for ADA Delegate and Alternate Delegate positions. Thank you to all the candidates for running and for their willingness to represent DCDS nationally. Congratulations to Dr. Stephen Tigani for his re-election as Delegate and to Dr. Katherine Clark, on winning the elections – we wish them both the best in starting this exciting endeavor and thank them for their service to organized dentistry and to the DCDS. We also heard from our wonderful speaker, Dr. Mark Kleive, on new patient examination, bite splints, and occlusion. On the topic of learning: do you know what E-R=C means? Do you remember how to test the medial and lateral poles? If you need a refresher, please check our website ([www.dcdental.org](http://www.dcdental.org)) for on-demand courses. We have added several new links on our website regarding vaccination and PPP guidelines. Lastly, our lucky January raffle winner was Dr. Sidalia Reed: Congratulations, Dr. Reed, and enjoy your gift! I also want to thank all the members who responded to our recent vaccine survey. A summary is provided in the sidebar “DCDS Survey on COVID-19 Vaccinations.”

The DCDS Board of Directors met on January 19th. Mr. Burke Spielman, general manager of The Dental Supply Company (TDSC), presented to the Board on the potential formation of a group purchasing organization for DCDS to benefit our membership. A lot of hard work from the Strategic Planning Group culminated in Dr. Pierre Cartier and Dr. Clare McGorry presentation of new revisions to our long-term strategic plan to the Board, which were approved. Beginning with a SWOT analysis to assess the state of the Society, followed by organizing the strategic priorities by groupings and SMART goals, the process took several months across a number of evening meetings. The next steps are to disseminate this plan to the committees to assess their various parts and budgeting of the new plan. We will keep you updated on the progress and implementation of these plans. I thank this diligent and intelligent group for their hard work to ensure our Society's long-term sustainability and growth. The Strategic Planning Group (SPG) members are Drs. Luis Barr, Anna Bettios, Pierre Cartier, Gary Kaihara, Nina Latifi, Clare McGorry, Luke Schwartz, as well as Mr. Kurt Gallagher and I. Please see the highlights of this new plan presented below.

DCDS is anticipating several events such as the February 9th to 10th monthly meeting. This 4 CE-units Webinar takes place across 2 days, during which Thony E. Chillura, DMD, FICD of Director of Dental Risk Management for Brown & Brown, Inc., an insurance company, will lead a presentation entitled: Risk management and malpractice avoidance. I hope to see you all there, and please show us your support by registering and attending. You will learn a lot, and completion of the course can earn you a discount on your insurance premium. You may even win the raffle!

DCDS is also looking forward to the first virtual Licensure Symposium under the leadership of Dr. Kim Menhinick and her planning committee, which will occur on Saturday, April 17th. Please save the date, as it promises to enable you to fulfill most of those courses that are specifically required to renew your and all your team's licenses. In addition, per the new rules adopted by the DC Board of Dentistry, you can now get your CPR certification renewed through an [online course offered by the American Heart Association](#).

Please also stay tuned and take a few minutes of your time to respond to short surveys for the education committee to help us plan your educational programming for the coming 2021-2022 year. We are grateful for your time and input, which is extremely valuable.

Finally, I hope that you all have received our email updates on the Covid-19 vaccines and that most of you and your teams have received the first dose of the vaccine. The [new update from the CDC](#) reiterates that the second dose should be administered as close to the recommended interval as possible; however, if it is not feasible to adhere to the recommended interval, the second dose of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines may be scheduled for administration up to 6 weeks (42 days) after the first dose. There

### DCDS Survey on COVID-19 Vaccinations\*

91%

DCDS member dentists who had received the 1st dose

84%

DCDS member dentists who scheduled their 2nd dose

8%

Team members who do not plan to get vaccinated

\* Results reflect participation by 65 DCDS members

**April 17, 2021**  
Virtual All-Day Meeting  
Washington, DC



# SPRING 2021

## LICENSURE SYMPOSIUM



District of Columbia  
DENTAL SOCIETY

ADA

# SPRING 2021

## SYMPOSIUM FOR LICENSURE

### Spring 2021 Symposium for Licensure Saturday, April 17 • Registration Now Open

The D.C. Dental Society will host the Spring 2021 Symposium for Licensure virtually on Saturday, April 17. This one-day event will provide the latest mix of courses required specifically by the D.C. Board of Dentistry [for licensure renewal of dentists](#) and dental team members (excludes CPR).

We are honored that ADA President Dr. Daniel J. Klemmedson will join the event to offer opening remarks. The Spring 2021 Symposium will feature the following speakers:

- Dr. Daniel J. Klemmedson, ADA President—Opening Remarks
- Dr. John Molinari—Infection Control (2 CE credits)
- Dr. Raymond Dionne—Abuse and Misuse of Prescription Drugs and Opioids (2 CE credits)
- Ms. Susan Gunn—Ethics (1 CE credit)
- LGBTQ Cultural Competency (TBA—2 CE credits)

Register by Sunday, March 21st to take advantage of Early Bird registration rates.

Visit [the Spring 2021 Symposium page](#) for additional information on presenters, [registration pricing, policies](#) and more.

[Register Here](#)

*Continuing Education Disclaimer: The District of Columbia Dental Society is an ADA CERP Recognized Provider. ADA CERP is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CERP does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors, nor does it imply acceptance of credit hours by boards of dentistry. It is the responsibility of each participant to verify the CE requirements of his or her licensing or regulatory agency and to contact them with any questions regarding licensing. The DC Dental Society designates this presentation for 7 CE credits.*

Concerns or complaints about a CE provider may be directed to the provider or to the **Commission for Continuing Education Provider Recognition** at [ADA.org/CERP](http://ADA.org/CERP).

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DENTAL PRACTICE TRANSITIONS

are currently limited data on the efficacy of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines administered beyond this window, but if the second dose is administered beyond these intervals, there is no need to restart the series. The CDC encourages vaccine recipients to enroll in [VaxTextSM](#), a free text message-based platform to receive COVID-19 vaccination second-dose reminders. In addition, the CDC has developed a new, voluntary smartphone-based tool, [v-safe](#), which uses text messaging and web surveys to provide near real-time health check-ins after patients receive the COVID-19 vaccination. The CDC/v-safe call center follows up on reports to v-safe indicating a medically significant health impact, including pregnancy, to collect additional information to complete a VAERS report, if appropriate.

In closing, let us all do everything that we can to keep our Society, which has been in existence since 1866, a beacon of strength, unity, and resilience for us and our communities. Should you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, or if you if you would like to get involved in our Society’s activities, please do not hesitate to contact DCDS at DCDS at [info@dental.org](mailto:info@dental.org).

Thank you and all the best,

Ladan Basiri, MA, DMD  
FACD, FICD  
DC Dental Society President

## Overview of New DCDS Strategic Plan

### 4 Strategic Goals

**MEMBERSHIP GOAL:** Achieve 55% market share of actively licensed dentists in DC by 2023; achieve 60% market share of these providers by 2025.

**INTERNAL COMMUNITY GOAL:** Increase the level of engagement of members in terms of volunteer work, charitable work and other contributions.

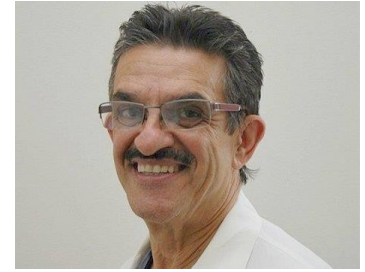
**EXTERNAL COMMUNITY GOAL:** Reinforce DCDS as the leading organization for dentists and the entire dental team throughout the broader DC community.

**ADVOCACY GOAL:** Establish DCDS as a recognized, respected advocate for dentists across the DC government by 2023.



# February 2-Part Event: "Risk Management and Malpractice Avoidance" (Practice Management)

Virtual Presentation by  
Anthony E. Chillura, DMD, FICD  
**Tuesday, February 9, 2021 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm EST**  
**Wednesday, February 10, 2021 – 6:00 to 8:00 pm EST**



Business Meeting Begins at 5:45 PM  
Educational Program Begins at Approximately 6:00 PM

Free to Members | \$50 for Non-Members

Please register by 5 PM on Monday, February 8.\*

Visit the [DCDS Registration Fees & Cancellation Policy page](#) for more details on registration.

## Course Description:

This course will focus on the dental practice and those circumstances which can reduce and sometimes prevent increased risks that often lead to malpractice claims. Attendees will be provided with practical suggestions and approaches that can successfully avoid common hazards which often increase the likelihood of malpractice claims against the dental practitioner. The course also is designed to explore how professional liability policies work and to demonstrate the wisdom of having your practice protected by professional liability insurance

For more information about the speaker, [please click here](#).

[Register Here](#)

## Special Virtual Presentation: Overview of the DC Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)

Presented by **DC | HEALTH**  
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

DC Health will host a special presentation for the DC Dental Society members on the DC PDMP on Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM. Topics covered by this 30-minute webinar will include:

- Mandatory registration
- How to integrate the PDMP into your EHR system for free
- How search the PDMP and delegate your PDMP queries to a registered staff member
- How to interpret a NarxCare report
- Relevant legislation

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, Feb 16, 2021 5:00 pm | 30 minutes

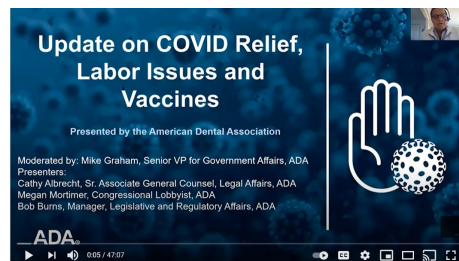
**Cost:** FREE

[Register Here](#)



## COVID Relief Overview and an Update on Vaccines

Learn about recent COVID-19 relief legislation and its implications for small business loans, taxes and labor issues during this webinar from the American Dental Association, recorded January 14. You'll also get updates related to the distribution and issues related to COVID-19 vaccines.



Topics covered in this webinar include the Paycheck Protection Program and Economic Injury Disaster Loans and grants, Employee Retention Tax Credit, and employment-related topics including paid time off for COVID-19, unemployment compensation benefit extensions and vaccination of practice staff.

[Click here to play.](#)

Please note: The information presented in this video was accurate as of January 14, 2020. Because of the ever-changing nature of COVID-19, healthcare recommendations and legislation, information in this video is subject to change. For the latest updates about COVID-19, visit [ADA.org/virus](https://ada.org/virus).

## Fauci: Government is Moving to Improve COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution



(Chet Strange/Getty Images)

### From CNN 2/1

Anthony Fauci, M.D., director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said Monday that the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines will improve as the federal government makes planned changes. Measures in the works include involving the Defense Department, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Homeland Security, as well as purchasing 200 million additional doses and ramping up the number of doses distributed to each state, according to CNN.

**Full Story:** [CNN \(2/1\)](#)

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## COVID-19 Vaccines in the Dental Workplace: FAQs for Practice Owners

### 1. Can I as a healthcare employer require my employees to get COVID-19 vaccines?

**Answer:** The answer is likely yes, at least with respect to practice staff with direct patient contact in the operatory, including any employed dentists.\* Yet, much remains to be determined, not the least of which includes how available vaccines are and will become (currently, the only vaccines authorized by the Food and Drug Administration are for emergency use and do not have final approval; in addition, they are not yet widely available). [See this FAQ page from the CDC for more information.](#) State health departments are in the process of prioritizing the classes of individuals to receive vaccines as and when they become available. And, even assuming a vaccine were widely available, the question raises a range of potential legal issues, and some practical challenges, you may wish to consider before making a business decision to require some or all of your staff to be vaccinated.

If your practice has 15 or more employees, any staff vaccination requirement would be subject to federal legal requirements to accommodate disabilities, including pregnancy-related disabling health conditions (e.g., preeclampsia, hyperemesis gravidarum) under the Americans with Disabilities Act (AwDA), as well as genuinely held religious beliefs and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII). On December 16, 2020, [the EEOC revised its March 17, 2020 initial COVID-19 technical assistance guidance to include new FAQs](#) on the circumstances under which an employer elects to require a COVID-19 vaccination as a condition of employment.

With respect to the AwDA, any vaccine requirement must be job-related, consistent with business necessity, and no more intrusive than necessary. Healthcare providers typically meet this standard with respect to COVID-19 as it is generally understood that an individual with COVID-19 might pose a direct threat to the health of the employee and others. Nevertheless, practices must reasonably accommodate staff members with disabilities unless the practice can demonstrate that doing so would pose an undue hardship (significant difficulty or expense) and no viable alternative exists. (See also, FAQs 2 and 3, below.) The parties must engage in an interactive process to determine whether and in what form a reasonable accommodation may be appropriate.

Under Title VII, when a practice is on notice that an employee's religious belief, practice or observance prevents the employee from receiving a vaccine, the employer must provide a reasonable accommodation unless doing so would cause more than a de minimus cost or burden. The requirement to accommodate does not require accommodation of personal beliefs that do not rise to the level of sincerely held religious beliefs (e.g., vaccine-aversion for other, nonmedical personal reasons, personal doubt as to the existence or severity of COVID-19 infection, etc.). State or local law may also inform the circumstances in which a healthcare employee may be required to receive a vaccination. Health departments may themselves require vaccinations for certain healthcare staff or essential workers. These laws – and the definition of which workers are included -- may vary between states and possibly even localities within a state.

In addition to legal requirements, practical considerations of who may be required to receive a vaccine – and when – will also come into play, at least in the early stages of the vaccine rollout. Presently, vaccine availability is scarce and the timeline for future vaccine delivery remains in flux. If you do require vaccines in your practice, you may wish to consider differentiating between staff members with direct patient contact versus office staff who have little. Finally, public support for vaccination is not universal at this stage, so a blanket policy may cause morale issues in the practice.

Given the current lack of a definitive roadmap for future vaccine availability (or a clear mandate for its universal use), practices may best be served by following health department requirements and encouraging staff vaccinations when and as available. (Updated 1/4/21)

\*The anti-discrimination laws do not apply to properly-classified independent contractors, so some of the legal concerns addressed in this FAQ may not apply. Nevertheless, practice owners may wish to factor in some of the other practical considerations before deciding to require vaccines in this cohort.

## **2. What kind of disability/pregnancy-related accommodations should my practice consider in evaluating whether a reasonable accommodation is possible?**

**Answer:** It is generally assumed that COVID-19 in the healthcare setting might pose a significant risk of substantial harm to the health or safety of the individual or others, at least with respect to staff members who have direct contact with patients in the operatory setting. For those staff members with such close patient contact, the critical question may come down to whether measures taken before the vaccine became available (i.e., masks, gloves, gowns, shields, protective barriers, social distancing, etc.) would constitute a reasonable accommodation to continue with respect to a staff member with a disability or pregnancy-related condition that could be harmed by a vaccine. The same question would also apply to non-operatory adjustments made before a vaccine became available. If prior measures are deemed insufficient, no longer effective or outdated, the practice should be prepared to document why and how circumstances have changed since the introduction of vaccines such that continuing with those practices would constitute an undue hardship to the practice. The practice must also consider whether other accommodations might be reasonable under the circumstances, including job-adjustment or reassignment, working from home if possible, or providing unpaid leave if the medical or pregnancy-related complication is resolvable over a reasonable time period. (Updated 1/4/21)

## **3. What kind of religious accommodations must I consider?**

**Answer:** In the context of COVID-19, the same types of accommodation available for staff members with disabilities must generally be considered. See FAQ 2, above. (Updated 1/4/21)

## **4. If I require staff members to be vaccinated, what proof can I request them to provide?**

**Answer:** Practices should take care not to request any verification that reveals any medical condition of the employee aside from vaccination status, as further inquiries may run afoul of federal or state disability laws. You may wish to advise your staff prior to testing the employee not to submit such information. All the practice needs to know is the employee's name and whether a vaccine has been administered (completely in the case of multi-dose vaccines). (Updated 1/4/21)

**5. If I require my staff to be vaccinated, must I pay for the vaccine and/or provide paid time off for them to receive the shot(s) (or pay for time off in the case of side effects)?**

**Answer:** Yes, as appropriate under the circumstances. While the vaccine itself is provided by the federal government through 2021, there may nevertheless be costs associated with administering the vaccine. If staff members are not permitted to opt out of the vaccine requirement, the practice would be responsible for paying the cost of administration as well as any time the employee is required to spend off-duty hours under federal and state wage and hour laws. Some practices may opt to engage a third-party vendor to provide vaccines on-site during regular working hours to defray costs. Some staff members may experience side effects that may keep them out of work for a day or so afterwards. Practices should consider providing paid time off in such a circumstance, if possible, if only for morale reasons. (Updated 1/4/21)

**6. What should I do if a staff member refuses to be vaccinated? Can I terminate their employment or re-assign them to another position?**

**Answer:** If an employee refuses a required vaccination, you should gather information about and document why the staff member is refusing. If the reason for the refusal is a claimed disability or religious belief (and your practice has 15 or more employees), you will need to discuss and document efforts to determine whether a reasonable accommodation is possible. See FAQs 2 and 3, above. You cannot retaliate against a staff member who exercises their legal right to a reasonable accommodation, nor can you treat similarly-situated classes of employees differently because of their race, gender, etc. If the staff member resists vaccination for non-disability-related or non-religious, personal reasons, the practice may still wish to consider accommodation should the practice wish to retain the staff member rather than terminating their employment. (Updated 1/4/21)

**7. What if I require a vaccination and a staff member suffers an adverse reaction?**

**Answer:** If a practice requires vaccination as a condition of continued employment, adverse consequences would be compensable to staff under state workers' compensation laws. Properly-classified independent contractors are not generally entitled to workers' compensation, in which case the practice may be liable if the vaccine was administered recklessly or negligently. (Updated 1/4/21)

**8. May staff members who have been vaccinated refuse to wear a mask and socially distance?**

**Answer:** Not for a while. The reality is, it may take weeks for the vaccine to take full effect, particularly in the case of a multi-dose vaccine. If a person is vaccinated while already infected by COVID-19, the vaccine may not prevent the spread of the virus to others. The data also suggests that while the vaccines are seemingly highly effective, none of them have been shown to be 100% effective, meaning there still is a chance of contracting COVID-19. Moreover, we do not yet know how effective or long-lasting the vaccine will prove in the long term, or whether someone who receives the vaccine may nevertheless spread the infection to others. (Updated 1/4/21)

**Disclaimer:** These materials are intended to provide helpful information to dentists and dental team members. They are in no way a substitute for actual professional advice based upon your unique facts and circumstances. This content is not intended or offered, nor should it be taken, as legal or other professional advice. You should always consult with your own professional advisors (e.g. attorney, accountant, insurance carrier).

## Executive Order calls for ACA Marketplaces to Reopen

ABC News, January 28, 2020

HHS will reopen enrollment for Affordable Care Act health plans at HealthCare.gov from Feb. 15 to May 15, after the Biden administration issued an executive order calling for the federal insurance marketplace to be reopened for three months, ABC News and The Washington Post report. The action follows campaign pledges from President Joe Biden to strengthen the ACA and roll back changes enacted by the previous administration.

**Full Story:** [ABC News \(1/28\)](#), [The Washington Post \(tiered subscription model\) \(1/28\)](#)

## Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners Issues Telephone Scam Alert

It has come to the attention of the Maryland State Dental Board that dental offices across the State may be the subject of telephone scam artists posing as Dental Board employees stating that the dentist's license is associated with either drug trafficking, money laundering, or other criminal activity. The caller may then seek to obtain personal information from the dentist and may threaten administrative or criminal action for failure to cooperate. Note that the caller may be able to manipulate caller ID so that it appears that the Dental Board is the source of the call. Do not provide any personal information to such callers. Be aware that the caller may know your full name, office telephone number, and address that you have on file with the Board, since that information is available by law to third parties.

If you are a dentist, dental hygienist, or dental radiation technologist, and you receive any suspicious calls of this nature, regardless of the purported source, you are strongly urged to immediately call the Dental Board at 410-402-8502.

Under no circumstances does the Dental Board ask that you provide credit card, banking, or other financial information by telephone, e-mail, or other electronic communication.

## DCDS Asks Mayor Bowser to Authorize Dentist to Administer COVID-19 Vaccines

In a letter dated January 29, DCDS asked Mayor Muriel Bowser to exercise her authority to grant emergency authorization to dentists to administer the COVID-19 vaccines at public vaccination sites. The letter cites a vote by the Board of Dentistry on October 21, 2020 recommending that dentists be authorized to administer the vaccines and similar authorizations granted in other states, including Maryland.

The letter also requests that DC allow distribution of the COVID-19 vaccines to dental practices when there is an adequate supply. The letter is [available on the DCDS website](#).



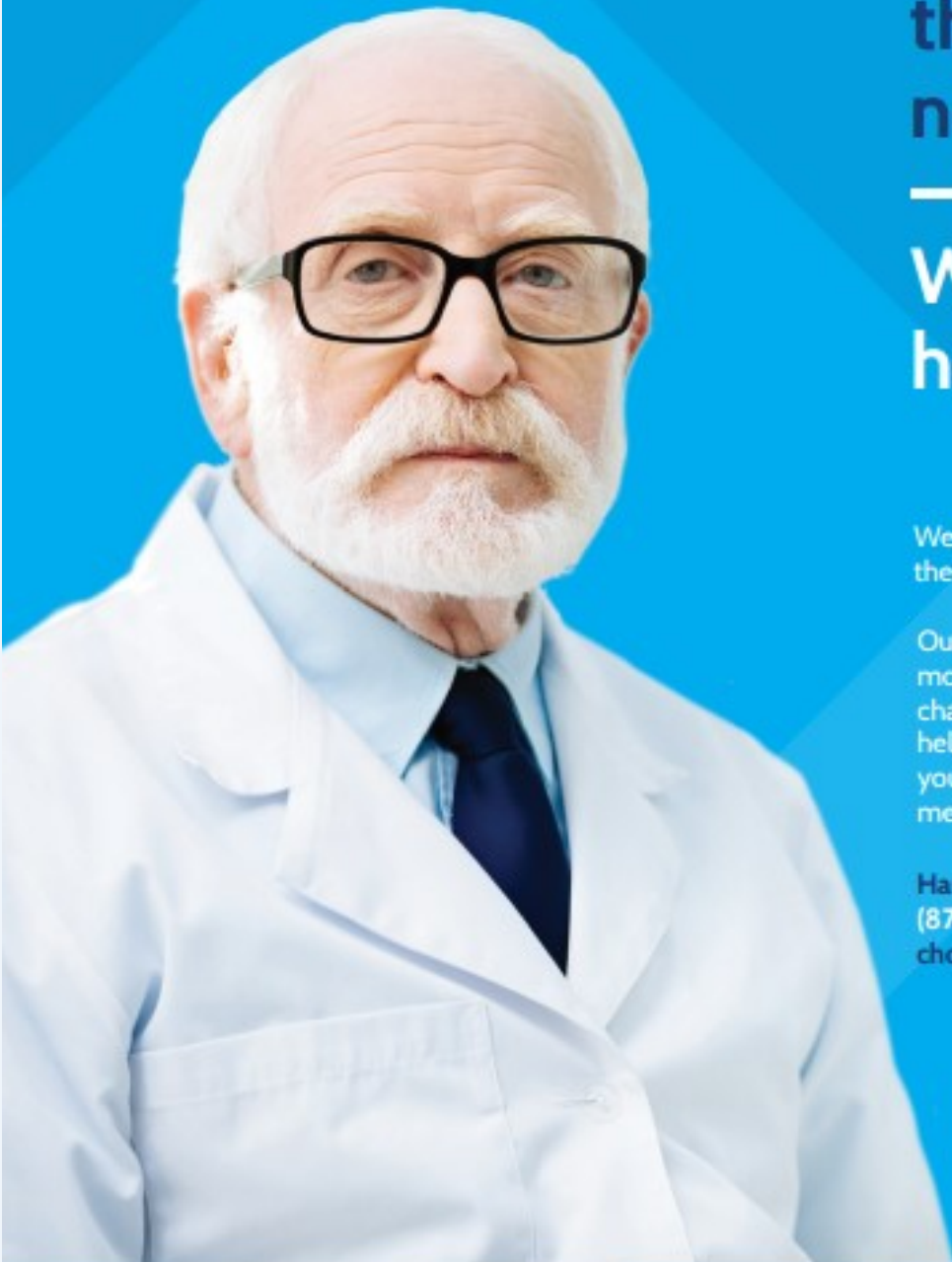
“What’s  
the new  
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## Classifieds

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**Contact:** Dr. Tsaknis at City Dental DC | 202-628-7979 | [itsaknis@citydentaldc.com](mailto:itsaknis@citydentaldc.com)

### Downtown Practice for Sale

**Description:** Established General Practice available for sale in downtown DC. This is a profitable practice with low overhead, strong cash flow and significant growth potential. Practice collection is over \$410K, two operatories within a beautiful 660 sf office. Ideal merger opportunity.

**Contact:** Ed Ramsey/PARAGON | 240.480.3622 | [eramsey@paragon.us.com](mailto:eramsey@paragon.us.com)

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