



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
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Boston, Massachusetts 02108

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Secretary

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March 19, 2020

RE: N95 Respirator Masks and/or surgical masks

Dear Members of our Dental Community:

I am writing to you today to ask for your immediate support in slowing the spread of COVID-19 in Massachusetts. As you've likely seen or heard from Governor Baker's daily press conferences, the COVID-19 pandemic has acutely burdened all of our communities and industries, and we need your help in "flattening the curve" to prevent our health system from becoming critically overwhelmed.

Our current COVID-19 response is significantly hampered by the systematic shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE). This is particularly concerning for our front-line hospitals, emergency medical services, community health centers, and urgent care centers, which are at risk of exhausting their PPE supplies as our COVID-19 caseload continues to rise. Without appropriate PPE, our health care workers are placed at high risk of infection from COVID-19, potentially limiting our available providers when we need them most.

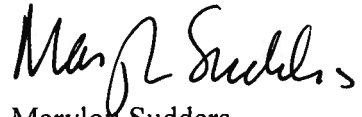
**We need your help. I am asking all Massachusetts dental providers to consider donating existing supplies of N95 respirator masks and/or surgical masks to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.**

I understand that this is an exceptional request of the Massachusetts dental community. However, for those providers who have begun to scale down or stop operations altogether, and for those with a surplus of N95s or surgical masks, this donation could make all the difference in preserving the health and safety of our sickest patients and front-line health care workers. I am asking our health care community to come together to combat this public health pandemic, and your contribution of masks would be a significant part of this effort.

This is a request made after careful and thoughtful consideration, and I understand that you may have questions before making your decision. For anyone who would like to discuss their donation options with our Statewide COVID-19 Response Command Center, Kim Christoforou is more than happy to work with you – just reach out at [kimberly.christoforou@umassmed.edu](mailto:kimberly.christoforou@umassmed.edu).

I appreciate your serious consideration of this request and thank you for all the work that the Massachusetts dental community is doing to support the COVID-19 response. By working together, we will overcome this pandemic. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marylou Sudders". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marylou Sudders