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| |  | | --- | | Dear Mr Singh  I recognise the enormous frustration of dentists currently being unable to secure urgent care for their patients.  Local Dental Networks, Local Dental Committees and colleagues across general dental practice and community services are working tirelessly to set up Urgent Care Centres and get them running, but as you may be aware supplies of appropriate personal protective equipment remain an obstacle .  In the meantime I urge colleagues to continue to offer telephone triaging and the 3As only (advice, analgesia and antibiotics) and not to feel pressurised into seeing patients without the appropriate PPE and proper protocols in place.  NHS England has promised that the establishment of the appropriate care is imminent.  If dentists feel they must see a patient face-to-face for urgent care only in the interim, then our advice is to ensure they have the proper PPE and training and that they also check their indemnity to ensure they will be covered.  They should keep direct contact to a minimum and avoid aerosol generating procedures in all instances. Our [risk assessment guide](http://bda-mail.org/In/239090319/0/YN2QXqlS5iSdMCeKlgWwiBUqPbXh8nQE%7ec4xZvmug18/" \o "Risk_assessment" \t "_blank) will help.  The options for genuine emergencies remain NHS 111 and A&E. | |

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| |  | | --- | | These are ethically and professionally very challenging times but following current guidelines and the safety of the dental team should be paramount   If you have experience of setting up an Urgent Care Centre I'm keen to hear from you.  Thank you for your continued support.   Regards,  **Mick Armstrong** Chair, BDA board | |