Dental teams play an important role in providing care during the COVID-19 pandemic. They also have a role in bringing this public health emergency to an end.

The patients we serve often experience health disparities that have been magnified by this pandemic.

We now have a powerful tool that can prevent COVID-19 and help end this pandemic: the COVID-19 vaccine. Dental teams have a unique opportunity to help increase the number of patients who are vaccinated in multiple ways:

- Research shows that the majority of people trust their health care providers to provide reliable information about COVID-19 vaccines.
- Patient conversations with clinicians result in higher vaccination rates.
- Some patients visit their dental providers more often than their medical providers. Dental visits provide a touchpoint during which patients and their providers can have conversations about the vaccine.
- Conversations over multiple visits are often necessary to increase vaccine acceptance.

**Tools to support conversations with patients about the COVID-19 vaccine**

- **American Dental Association toolkit,** “Patient Return: Talking with Your Patients about COVID-19 Vaccines” (available only to ADA members). This toolkit includes:
  - Talking points to help you communicate effectively with your patients.
  - Take-home fact sheets for patients.
  - FAQs.
  - Office signage.
  - Sample outreach emails and suggestions for social media.
  - A list of additional resources.

- **CareOregon handout,** “COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective”:
  - English
  - Spanish
  - Chinese
  - Russian
  - Vietnamese

- **Oregon Health Authority fact sheets for patients:**
  - Why get the vaccine?: [English](#) | [Spanish](#)
  - COVID-19 vaccine facts: [English](#) | [Spanish](#)
  - What to know before you get vaccinated: [English](#) | [Spanish](#)
  - Where can I get my COVID-19 vaccine?: [English](#) | [Spanish](#)


Contact [oralhealth@careoregon.org](mailto:oralhealth@careoregon.org) for additional information on materials and resources.