

20 March 2020

BSPD response to COVID-19

A list of resources to support dental teams working with children and young people and their families has been prepared by the BSPD Executive Committee. The help comes under three separate headings – professional guidance, personal guidance and resources for use with and by our patients and their families. The situation is changing daily but we hope that all the links we provide are to sites which are being kept up-to-date.

1. Professional guidance for the dental team

The General Dental Council provides the latest guidance for all its registrants with links to relevant information for all four nations:

<https://www.gdc-uk.org/information-standards-guidance/covid-19-latest-guidance>

For the latest public health or practical advice, go directly to the website for the nation in which you are working:

- England: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/>
- Northern Ireland: <https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/covid-19-coronavirus>
- Scotland: <https://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/a-to-z-of-topics/covid-19/>
- Wales: <https://phw.nhs.wales/topics/latest-information-on-novel-coronavirus-covid-19/>

Advice is also available through our representative bodies:

The British Dental Association is providing regular live updates for the dental team and Coronavirus FAQs:

<https://bda.org/advice/Coronavirus/>

The British Medical Association is providing some practical advice for our dentist members working in secondary care and advice for medical primary care services:

<https://beta.bma.org.uk/advice-and-support/covid-19/resources/covid-19-guidance-directory>

Unison have also offered guidance:

<https://www.unison.org.uk/>

2. Resources for use with, and by, our patients and their families:

An easy read factsheet about the virus, infection and prevention: Advice about the coronavirus
<https://www.easy-read-online.co.uk/media/53192/advice-on-the-coronavirus-v1.pdf>

A resource for the under 7s to help discuss emotions: Mindhearts Covibook

<https://www.mindheart.co/descargables>

Child-friendly resources to encourage discussions about the virus:

<https://www.compass-uk.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Compass-BUZZ-on-Coronavirus.pdf>

A feast of resources for young people created in Scotland:

<https://young.scot/campaigns/national/coronavirus>

3. Resources for your own welfare

Steps you can take to keep your stress to a minimum 5 steps to mental wellbeing:
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/improve-mental-wellbeing>

If you have any concerns about expectations or patient care which might affect your GDC registration, you should contact your defence organization

And BSPD is here for you. Don't hesitate to be in touch if we can help or advise you. Any queries should initially go through our Administrator Neil Sutcliffe: administrator@bspd.co.uk

Our President Sarah McKaig commented:

"We are aware that many of you are going the extra mile in support of our patients, some in leadership roles, and we are very proud of the work you are doing. We are also aware of the uncertainty and worry that the Coronavirus outbreak is causing everyone. Keeping abreast of information is challenging. We hope this small list of resources is useful."