



**MAYOR**  
Dee Margo

**CITY MANAGER**  
Tommy Gonzalez

**CITY COUNCIL**

**District 1**  
Peter Svarzbein

**District 2**  
Alexandra Anello

**District 3**  
Cassandra Hernandez

**District 4**  
Dr. Sam Morgan

**District 5**  
Isabel Salcido

**District 6**  
Claudia L. Rodriguez

**District 7**  
Henry Rivera

**District 8**  
Cissy Lizarraga

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

**03 / 18 / 2020**  
El Paso, Texas

## COVID-19 Prevention Guidance Provided to Dental Providers

### Residents asked to report non-compliance to Health Authority Orders

This afternoon El Paso City/County Health Authority, Dr. Hector Ocaranza issued updated guidelines targeting dental practitioners. The guidance is in an effort to curb transmission of COVID-19 in our community. In addition to increased vigilance and sanitizing, these guidelines ask dental providers not to refer patients to emergency rooms in order to ease the demand faced by healthcare facilities.

“It is preferred that those patients who need to be admitted be directly admitted to the hospital from your office,” Dr. Ocaranza writes in the guidelines. Ocaranza stresses adhering to universal precautions, frequent handwashing, and the screening of patients for symptoms of COVID-19 in order to avoid exposing others.

Clinic managers are also reminded to review their Human Resources protocols and update sick leave policies in case employees should fall ill. Employees who are sick need to stay home and they should not report to work.

Residents with questions and concerns regarding the orders may email [COVIDCompliance@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:COVIDCompliance@elpasotexas.gov).

For more information and to remain up to date on the newest developments, the public is encouraged to visit [www.EPHealth.com](http://www.EPHealth.com).

[Message from Dr. Hector Ocaranza – Guidance for Travelers \(English\)](#)

[Message from Dr. Hector Ocaranza – Guidance for Travelers \(Spanish\)](#)

[Message from Assistant Chief Rodriguez](#)

###



**Media Contact: Soraya Ayub Palacios**

Lead Public Affairs Coordinator

(915) 915.212.1040

(915) 915.781.4386