

**President's Report  
Health Services Board  
August 13, 2020**

**Subject:** Routine medical and dental care during COVID-19 pandemic.

In recent discussions, there have been questions regarding access and utilization to routine and non-urgent healthcare during the COVID-19 pandemic. The following are some articles that address these issues. Included are observations in the Commonwealth Fund report that there has been recently some rebound in the early drop off of outpatient visits, but not back to pre-pandemic levels. The importance of routine pediatric vaccinations is reinforced. The NPR report on dentist office visit issues is timely. The SF.gov website has a lot of great information for members and should be reviewed for updates, including a 2 page Dental-Patients-FAQ.pdf.

Dental care:

<https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2020/07/06/886456835/the-dentist-will-see-you-now-but-should-you-go>

Doctors urge Marin residents to resume cancer screenings:

<https://www.marinij.com/2020/07/25/doctors-urge-marin-residents-to-resume-cancer-screenings/>

From SF City and County website:

<https://sf.gov/information/get-healthcare-during-coronavirus-pandemic>

Mental health:

COVID-19 pandemic and mental health consequences: Systematic review of the current evidence: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32485289/>

Effect on routine outpatient visits:

<https://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/2020/apr/impact-covid-19-outpatient-visits>

And in pediatric care, specifically on routine pediatric immunizations:

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6919e2.htm>