

How COVID-19 Is Affecting Oral Health Providers of Color



Study Design

- Surveyed DentaQuest network of providers in August 2020
- Analyzed results specific to oral health providers of color during COVID-19 pandemic



Results

- The COVID-19 pandemic-related changes have disproportionately affected oral health providers of color in terms of patient and payment volumes and capacity
- Despite increased burdens of COVID-19, oral health providers of color are:
 - More likely to place high importance on infection control procedures
 - More likely to expect and accept noncontact dentistry
 - More likely to offer oral health services through telehealth
 - More interested in learning about alternative payment models (APMs)



Conclusions

- Oral health providers of color have been hit hard by COVID-19 but are ready to embrace a new normal in oral health that includes:
 - Enhanced infection control
 - Minimally invasive procedures
 - Teledentistry
 - APMs