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KN95 Masks Available

The Eighth District has purchased 2000 KN95 masks for our members. Each tripartite member is eligible to receive two free masks. These are not on the FDA or NIOSH approved list, as the confirmation of acceptable alternative masks was not published yet when the purchase was made. If you would like to pick up these masks, to at least return to work initially with a better alternative to our customary Surgical Level 1, 2, or 3 masks, they will be available to you through your County President. Each President will notify you as to where and when you can pick up these masks.

Thank you for your support, interest, and patience through this COVID-19 pandemic.

Notes:

- UBSDM faculty may pick up their masks at the school.
- Members in Erie County can pick theirs up in in the 8th District office lobby between the hours of 10 AM and 12 PM and 1:00 - 3:00 PM, Monday-Friday.

Thank you,

The Eighth District Dental Society Officers

Respirator Fit Testing Training

As you all know, dentists and the dental team will be facing new challenges when we reopen for essential and eventual elective dentistry. At this time we have not been given any direct mandates as to the type of PPE that will be needed. It does seem likely that minimally, the use of N95 respirators and face shields will be the new standard. You may not be aware that in order to properly wear N95 masks, each member of the dental team will need to be a) medically cleared to wear such a device, and b) be properly fit tested. The cost for such a test is usually around \$50 - \$60 per test for each staff member who wears an N95 mask, by existing fit testers in our area. ([OSHA Fit Testing Transcript & Video](#)) ([OSHA Temporary Enforcement Guidance](#))

The Eighth District is looking into training qualified and interested dental personnel to become certified N95 respirator fit testers, at a considerable savings to our member dentists, and their staffs. Our District will fund the training session through a well-vetted company; OSEA, Inc. of perhaps 25 to 50 potential trainers. Once they are certified they can go to dental offices to fit test each member of the staff. This might result in a greatly reduced fee of approximately \$25 to \$30 per person per test, which would be considerably less than what is presently available now.

We are looking for dental staff members, and perhaps nearly retired and/or working dentists, who might be interested in training to become Fit Testers. This would involve a few hours of online training, and then of course a brief competency exam to become certified. After certification, the Fit Testers could set up appointments to fit test offices or individuals at the reduced rate for our members and their staffs.

If you are interested, please notify the [Eighth District Dental Society](#) office as soon as possible so that we can initiate this endeavor in the very near future.

Note: We are asking that each certified trainer agree to conducting fit tests for 20 Eighth District member practices.

Thank you for your interest and support.
The Eighth District Dental Society Officers

ADA Guide on Coding & Billing for PPE

The ADA has released a guide on coding and billing for protective personal equipment. This guide includes information includes responses to frequently asked questions, especially as they relate to charges for PPE when participating with third- party payment programs. Some third-party payers are launching programs to provide financial support for dental offices to support the increased cost of PPE. A tracking sheet of payer policies is included in the guide. For questions about billing and coding, contact dentalbenefits@ada.org.

[Guide \(.pdf\)](#)
