

January 7, 2021

North Dakota Board of Dental Examiners PO Box 7246 Bismarck, ND 58507

North Dakota Board of Dental Examiners,

On behalf of our 400 members in the state, we respectfully ask that you authorize dentists to administer the COVID-19 vaccine. We ask that you take this action now, even though we are in the early stages of vaccine rollout, to ensure that dentists can stand "at the ready" to deliver the vaccine along with other providers to the population at-large.

As demonstrated in their training and during every day practice, dentists are highly skilled in handling routine injections such as those required for administering the COVID-19 vaccine. Additionally, dentists work in a variety of settings including federally qualified health centers, where storage of the vaccine is available. Broadly authorizing dentists to provide the vaccine will maximize the available providers to take part in the effort. In anticipation of being able to administer the vaccine, many dentists are already accessing the online trainings available from the vaccine manufacturers, e.g. Pfizer.

We urge you to authorize dentists to administer the COVID-19 vaccine. The North Dakota Dental Association stands ready to assist you in any way necessary to achieve this goal.

Thank you for considering our request. If you have any questions, please contact William Sherwin at 701-223-8870 or wsherwin@smilenorthdakota.org.

Sincerely,

Jackie Nord

Jackie Nord NDDA President

William Shin

William Sherwin Executive Director