

Based on the NYS Department of Health webinar on March 13, 2020 physicians should take the following precautions:

- Triage patients over the phone or via telehealth so that your office can be prepared and avoid exposure to other patients, it is also recommended that you suspend walk-ins. Please be aware, as noted below, that the NYS DFS and DOH have taken a number of steps to ensure that physicians will be paid for telehealth and telephone visits with patients.
- Advise any patient to self-quarantine/self-isolate until COVID-19 is ruled out. Patients who have been exposed to the virus or traveled to affected international locations must continue quarantine for 14 days even if their test is negative.
- Notify the county health Department of any patient you advise to self-quarantine, even if the patient is considered low risk. A list of county health departments can be found at: https://www.health.ny.gov/contact/contact_information/ **For location of testing sites, please contact the county department of health.**
- Keep plenty of ear-loop face masks on hand for physicians and staff. If you need more masks or other PPE equipment in response to COVID-19, please contact your **county Emergency Management Office (EMO)** and indicate that you are having difficulty obtaining PPE and request their assistance in acquiring these items.