

**PRESS RELEASE**

For immediate distribution



**Dental and Medical Offices as a Solution for Testing COVID-19**

**Toronto (September XX, 2020)** – Following Premier Ford’s recent announcement concerning COVID-19 tests to potentially be made available at pharmacies, ALTIMA HEALTHCARE CANADA Inc., one of Canada’s largest and longest-standing premier dental and medical groups, **calls on the province of Ontario to consider dental and medical offices as a solution to test asymptomatic individuals.** With protective equipment in short supply as well as an increase in recent cases, allowing patients to get tested in facilities that already have the required safety measures could save additional costs, reduce the use of PPE, and create less contact opportunities for Canadians.

In fact, dentists in Japan are now authorized to test their patients for SARS-CoV-2 with nose and throat in an effort to strengthen the country’s ability to conduct tests for detecting infection, according to the Japan Times. In addition to already being equipped with the required PPE and associated training, dentists and doctors are experts in the mouth, throat, and neck areas. Providing testing kits to dental and medical practices can therefore reduce the work load of the already stretched health care system and reduce lineups.

**Dr. George Christodoulou, Co-CEO at Altima Healthcare Canada Inc.** – *“By delivering direct access to COVID-19 tests for asymptomatic patients who are already at the clinic for their appointment, we can increase the quality of care for patients while improving of the health care system by being part of the solution. We are in the next best possible position to allow individuals to get tested for COVID-19. We are ready to offer our help and collaborate with the government as of today.”*

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### **About Altima Healthcare Canada Inc.**

Altima Healthcare Canada Inc. is one of Canada's largest and longest-standing premier dental (Altima Dental) and medical groups (MCI The Doctor's Office) operating in over 130 clinics across the country. Founded and led by dentists Dr. George Christodoulou and Dr. Sven Grail who understand the passion of providing healthcare and achieving personal and professional advancement. Altima understands when partnering with a Dental or Medical Group it is important to maintain the professional's vision, values and carry on their legacy for years to come. Altima is focused on superior patient care, best clinical practices and true partnership with medical professionals. In addition to in-person visits, Altima Healthcare provides virtual and telephone appointments so patients can get the care they need, when they need it, from the comfort of their own home.

With 2,350 healthcare professionals and support staff, Altima cares for over 3 million patients. These medical and dental facilities allow patients across Canada to access a vast, multidisciplinary group of dentists, medical doctors, specialists, healthcare practitioners and therapists, and related services. Altima Healthcare Canada Inc. is in a unique position to provide continuity and access to a vast range of healthcare services for Canadians.

For more information about Altima Dental, please visit [altimadental.com](http://altimadental.com)

For more information about MCI The Doctor's Office, please visit [mcithedoctorsoffice.ca](http://mcithedoctorsoffice.ca)

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