

Dear Valued Patients,

In light of recent developments, we wanted an opportunity to share what we are doing to protect the health of our patients, our dental team and our community. In addition to the continued practice of rigorous infection control protocols within our office, we have also implemented a plan of action that is aimed directly at both prevention and disease control.

Screening patient questions and prevention:

1. Have you or someone close to you had any contact with individuals that may have shown symptoms of respiratory illness, which includes but is not limited to sore throat, sneezing, coughing or fever?
2. Have you have traveled internationally in the last 14 days?
3. Have you visited or occupied any area that the government has determined is high-risk?

If you answered “**yes**” to any of the above questions, please call to reschedule your appointment once you or your close contact’s symptoms have resolved. Although we can make no promises, we can assure you that we will work hard to accommodate you and your schedule.

Protocols to Prevent Infection and Reduce Risk in your home and daily life:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), states that the best defense against most respiratory illnesses, including the flu and Coronavirus (COVID-19), is to practice the following preventative measures daily, which include:

1. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces – Within our practice, this is performed daily and between each patient visit.
2. Clean your hands often - Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing; or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
3. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with your hands.
4. Avoid close contact with people who are sick – put distance between yourself and other people, especially for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.
5. Cover your cough or sneeze with the tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
6. **Most importantly, stay home if you are sick.**

Please rest assured that we will do everything in our power to keep you and our staff healthy. We greatly appreciate your help in accomplishing this goal and are certain that together, we will be able to provide both the safe environment and the quality care that you have come to expect from our practice.

Warmest regards,