

Our priority as a dental provider always has been to make your visit safe and comfortable. In addition to what we have done in the past, you will notice some changes. These changes are in agreement with the recommendations of the CDC, ADA, ISDS, and Illinois State Department of Health. This will greatly reduce the volume of patients we can see in a given time and also will limit some typical types of procedures to prevent spreading the virus. All this is being done to protect everyone. It is our belief that the single most important issue here is everyone's safety including the patients, staff, and doctor along with each of their families.

We currently will be scheduling a small number of patients each day to make sure we achieve our social distancing and safety goals/requirements. It is unlikely that this number will increase significantly during this pandemic as we are limited by our physical space. To help offset the decreased daily volume we are adding time to our work schedule, at least until we are able to see all our patients and get caught up. We have been working hard to get the office and staff ready to get all of your treatment back on schedule and your patience is appreciated.

### **Physical Changes to Prevent the Spread of Covid-19**

We have installed air purifiers with UV lights in each room.

The number of patients and staff in the office has been reduced to allow social distancing.

The dental vacuum system has been modified to remove any aerosols during treatment and remove them from the facility.

All disinfection and sterilization protocols have always been up to date.

### **Operational Controls**

Patients entering and exiting the office will be controlled and monitored to prevent more than one patient from coming or going at the same time. No one will be allowed in the office without an invitation.

A maximum of 3 patients will be allowed in the office at any one time and will be separated by at least 10 feet at all times to maintain social distancing requirements.

### **Personal Protective Equipment**

The following PPE will be required when seeing ANY patient for ANY procedure:

- 1) N95 or equivalent Respirator that has been properly fit tested and checked on each provider
- 2) Full Face shield to prevent aerosols from contacting the eyes or mucous membranes and to minimize contamination of the respirator
- 3) Gloves
- 4) All patients will wear masks at all times in the office except when they are actually being treated. We ask each patient to arrive with his/her own mask.

### **Patient Check in Process**

We ask that you arrive at our door 5 minutes before your appointment time. No one will be allowed into the office except at his/her appointment time to prevent patients congregating in the reception area. There is a notice on the door. Please read this and inform us if you answer yes to any question.

No one is allowed in the office except patients unless there is an urgent need i.e. young child with one parent. Parents cannot be permitted in the treatment room due to social distancing requirements.

Each patient will undergo a quick health screening including non-contact temperature reading when they first enter the office. Patients who show any symptom of COVID-19 (Cough, Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, Fever, Chills, Muscle pain, Sore throat, loss of taste or smell) will not be seen that day or for 14 days.

EACH PATIENT WILL BE REQUIRED TO WEAR A MASK WHEN THEY ARRIVE. You are required to bring your own mask, homemade cloth masks are acceptable and must be worn at all times in the office except during actual treatment.

There will be NO TOOTHBRUSHING at the office to minimize the creation of aerosols in a public space. Please arrive with teeth clean and ready for treatment or you may be sent home.

RESTROOMS - There are restrooms in the office that you are welcome to use if absolutely necessary. We ask that you not use our restroom so it can be reserved for staff members and maintain sanitary conditions.