

December 9, 2020

To Our Valued Patients,

Again, we hope this letter finds you and your family in good health. The latest stay at home order (12/7/20) should not compromise your dental health. Dentist are considered essential workers, and as such, you can and should continue with your scheduled treatment and routine dental care. Dental problems tend to become more involved, more painful and some times more costly the longer they are ignored.

Infection control has always been a top priority for our practice, and as previously stated we follow strict infection control measures set by the ADA, CDC, and OSHA. We are in continued compliance with these agencies and regularly review any changes being made, especially due to COVID-19.

Here are some of the changes you have, and will continue to, encounter at future appointments:

- We will communicate with you beforehand to ask some COVID screening questions.
- We would like you to wait in your car until 5 minutes before your appointed time.
- **YOU MUST BE WEARING A FACEMASK OR FACE COVER TO ENTER THE BUILDING AND OFFICE.**
- Hand sanitizer will be inside the door for your use.
- Upon arrival, we will take your temperature, and COVID screening questions repeated.
- We have modified our schedule to minimize wait times and provide proper social distancing.
- You can rest assured that anyone in the office has already had their temperature taken and screened for COVID, including staff.

Our main priority is to protect our patients and staff from the transmission of COVID while we continue to care for your dental health. In addition to the policies and procedures listed above, we will utilize additional protective gear. The hygienist, assistants, and doctor will be wearing a KN95 mask covered by a surgical mask, an isolation gown, face shield, and hair bonnet.

We have also made some facility changes to improve the air quality in the office. In April, the HVAC air filtration for the entire building received an upgrade, and in our office, we now have HEPA air filtration units in each room. We have also added external aerosol extraction units. The current high-volume suction you are accustomed to eliminates 95% of aerosols produced, adding the external extraction units will help capture the remaining aerosol.

We look forward to seeing you again and are happy to answer any questions you may have about the steps we are taking to keep you, and every patient, safe in our practice. To make an appointment, please call our office at 949-857-1053.

Thank you for being our patient. We value your trust and look forward to welcoming you at your next visit.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bounds and Team