

We hope this letter finds you and your family in good health. Our communities have been through a lot over the last few months, and all of us are looking forward to resuming our normal habits and routines. While many things have changed, one thing has remained the same: our office's commitment to you and your safety. We are looking forward to resume seeing patients June 1, 2020.

Infection control has always been a top priority in our practice. We follow recommendations and guidelines made by the American Dental Association (ADA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). This allows us to make sure that our infection control procedures are up-to-date and enables us to provide the safest environment for our patients and their family members.

We ask that you please be patient and understand that we will do our best to accommodate your scheduling needs as we know many of you are anxious to get back into our office.

During this time, we have implemented additional safety precautions to help protect our patients and staff.

Upon scheduling an appointment, we will review a COVID-19 health questionnaire with you. We will postpone treatment for any patient who has experienced or been in contact with someone who has experienced the following symptoms within 14 days of the scheduled appointment date: fever, cough, loss of taste and/or smell, flu-like symptoms, difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, and fatigue.

If you have a preexisting health conditions (as recommended by CDC) such as diabetes, chronic lung disease or asthma, serious heart conditions, are immunocompromised, or chronic kidney or liver disease, we recommend you do not visit the office at this time. If you fall into this category but need to accompany a child or family member for a visit, please call our office as we will handle this request on a case-by-case basis.

We will be scheduling appointments in a manner that promotes social distancing and allows for adequate time for us to disinfect all areas of use in between patient appointments.

Please stay in your car, upon arrival at our office. When your treatment room is ready, your hygienist or assistant will be down to get you. Prior to entering the facility, they will perform a verbal health screening and take your temperature with a non-contact thermometer. We ask that only the patient with the appointment enter the office. For those patients who need a guardian to accompany them, we ask that this be limited to a single family member.

Every person entering the office is expected to wear a face covering and will be asked to sanitize their hands upon entry.

We have taken additional steps to minimize patient interaction at the front office. For now, we will not be utilizing the patient reception area and will no longer offer magazines, charging stations, children's toys, and so forth, since these items are difficult to clean and disinfect. Clear plastic screens (sneeze guards) have also been installed at the front desk to minimize exposure to airborne pathogens.

Our doctor and staff will be wearing all the recommended personal protective equipment (PPE).

Thank you for being part of our family dental practice. We value your trust and loyalty and look forward to welcoming back our patients, neighbors, and friends.

Dr. Shawn Widick, Chadburn and Staff