

Dear Patient:

We hope you and your family are in good health (Ill John 2). Our community and nation have been through a lot over the last months, and all of us are looking forward to returning to more normal habits and routines. While many things have changed, this has not: our commitment to safe and appropriate dental care for you.

Infection control has always been a high priority in our practice as you have probably noticed during your visits to our office. For example, many people have commented on the number of times Dr. Bray washes his hands every day. We want to remind you of ongoing infection control policies we follow in our practice to keep patients and staff safe.

Our office policy is informed by infection control recommendations made by the American Dental Association (ADA), the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). We follow the activities of these agencies so that we are up to date on any new rulings or guidance. We do this to make sure that our infection control procedures are current and practical as we strive to adhere to each agency's recommendations.

You may see some changes when it is time for your next dental appointment. We are making these changes to help protect our patients and staff.

Please review the screening questions that are on the second page of this letter. If there is any doubt as to if you should receive dental care due to your own health or the risk of spread of COVID-19, please delay your appointment. You will be asked these same questions when you come to our office.

We have hand sanitizer that we ask that you use when you enter the office. We have some scattered about the office for you to use as you need. While we are cleaning frequently, you are the best one to keep your hands germ free.

You may see that we have removed magazines and children's toys since these are difficult to clean and disinfect.

Appointments and seating will be managed to allow for social distancing between patients. This means that there are fewer options for scheduling your appointments. Also, only people essential for transportation and personal care should accompany the patient being seen.

We will do our best to minimize waiting times and reduce the number of people in the business desk areas.

We look forward to seeing you again. We are happy to answer questions you have about steps we are taking to keep you and every patient safe and to provide needed dental care. You may call us at 912-489-1386.

Thank you for being our patient. We value your trust and loyalty.

Drs. Bray & Young, and our fabulous team

Do you have a fever or have you felt hot or feverish in the last 2-3 weeks?

Are you having shortness of breath or other difficulties breathing?

Do you have a cough?

Do you have other flu-like symptoms such as stomach upset, headache or significant fatigue?

Have you experienced recent loss of taste or smell?

Are you or have you been in contact with a confirmed COVID-19 positive patient within the last 14 days?

Within the last 2 weeks, have you traveled in any regions seriously affected by COVID-19?

If you answered "YES" to any of the above questions, you should delay elective dental procedures. We ask that you contact your primary health care provider for guidance on being examined and/or being tested for COVID-19.

If you are in pain or have dental infection, we will examine you and refer you to an appropriate treatment center.

If you have poorly controlled heart disease, lung disease, kidney disease, or diabetes, or if you are having any therapy that reduces your resistance to disease, or if you have auto-immune disorders, it would be better to wait for elective dental care until such time as the threat of a COVID-19 infection is lessened.