

Dear Patient,

In an effort to help control the spread of the coronavirus, our office will limit appointments to emergency procedures at this time.

This decision is in accordance with the recommendation released by the American Dental Association (ADA) to postpone all non-emergency procedures until April 6.

“Concentrating on emergency dental care will allow us to care for our emergency patients and alleviate the burden that dental emergencies would place on hospital emergency departments,” the ADA said in a statement Monday.

**Our office will reopen for business as usual on April 6, 2020.**

**If you have an upcoming hygiene or non-urgent appointment:**

We will be in contact with you soon to reschedule and we will notify you when we are fully prepared to resume business as usual for all of our patients.

Our phone lines will remain open for your questions and concerns. *If you are experiencing pain or have any dental emergency, please call our office at (608)-837-4880.*

**If you are scheduled for urgent dental care:**

If you are scheduled for a procedure such as a root canal, your appointment will remain unchanged, but we may also contact you to see if you would like to reschedule and have your treatment completed sooner.

At our office, we have always followed standard universal precautions issued by the CDC and ADA to help protect every one of our patients and team members from the many infectious diseases that we are potentially exposed to on a daily basis. For your peace of mind, these are the precautions we take EVERY time you sit in one of our patient chairs:

- We wear single-use gloves and masks while treating patients.
- We place instruments after each use into an autoclave (a high-pressure steam oven) to kill every known infectious organism, including coronavirus.
- We wipe down each dental operatory after each patient visit with a medical-grade surface disinfectant that kills all known infectious diseases, including coronavirus.
- We either wash our hands thoroughly or apply an alcohol-based compound between each patient.

In addition to the above standard measures, we will be exercising a higher standard of infection-control in our waiting areas, including removing all magazines, toys, and other items that are difficult to disinfect. And while we love and value each of our patients, handshakes and hugs may be replaced with an “elbow bump” for the time being.

While we are doing everything in our power to protect you, we also ask for your cooperation in making our office environment a safe one when you visit us. If you have a cough, fever, or chills, please call our office to discuss whether or not you should reschedule. Also, to practice social distancing and minimize the number of people in our waiting room, please show up no earlier than 10 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment and come alone if possible.

We apologize for any inconvenience this causes, but our number one priority is keeping our patients, our team, and the public as healthy and safe as possible. We care about each of you and hope that you and your family will remain in good health during this difficult time.

We continue to closely monitor the situation surrounding the COVID-19 outbreak and will provide updates as they become available.

Sincerely,

***Dr. Chris Stevens & Dr. Andrew Brodek***