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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Dear Patient,       We miss you and hope you are well!!!       We are hopeful that we will be reopening the dental office the beginning of June.  However, this depends on the availability of personal protective equipment (PPE).  The raw materials to produce PPE are in short supply and available PPE has gone to the frontline workers.  Dentists were called upon early on to donate their supplies to the front line workers.  I have many items on backorder.       When we resume routine dental care, we will be wearing more PPE as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic.  We will continue to wear glasses with sideshields, masks and gloves.  For now, we will be adding face shields and disposable gowns per the CDC.       Dentistry has always been at the forefront of infection control during our careers.  We have faced other pandemics in the past like HIV/AIDS and our disinfection and sterilization procedures have kept us safe and our patients safe.  We have been taking numerous webinars and continuing education courses while the office is closed about this pandemic from groups like the CDC, OSHA and the American Dental Association.       We want to make you aware of recommended changes to your next dental office visit. We will be talking to you over the phone the day before your visit with screening questions that will be repeated when you arrive for your appointment. Please update us with any dental insurance changes.  Please arrive no more than 5 minutes before your scheduled time.  We want to minimize people in the waiting room due to social distancing so unless the appointment is for a child or if you need assistance, please come alone.  Please wear your own mask to the office. There will be hand sanitizer as soon as you come into the waiting room.  We will be taking your temperature with a touchless thermometer.       It has been advised for us to call you to do a well check 48-72 hours after your appointment.       We have removed the magazines and toys from the waiting room since they are difficult to disinfect. Throughout the day, we will be disinfecting public areas including door knobs, light switches, counters, ect.  Please be prepared for a little bit longer appointment time due to our PPE protocols.  We are going to give more time in between appointments for social distancing and proper disinfection.       For patients with uncontrolled diabetes, lung issues, serious heart conditions, or are immunocompromised, it might be best to wait a bit longer for routine dental care.       We want you to know that the same screening protocols with temperature checks will be done on the staff.            We will be updating our voicemail message, website, Facebook and Instagram pages when we have an exact opening date.  We are hoping for June 8. We will be reaching out to you to confirm your appointment with the time, which may need to be adjusted.  Patients with dental issues we are aware of will be called also.       On a lighter note, we are looking forward to not sitting in front of a computer for hours at a time, to seeing faces other than our immediate families and hearing what's new in your life!!!       Stay well!       Deborah Edgerly and staff | | | |
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