



Safety Precautions in our Practice

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Training and Educating Our Team

One of the most important things that we are doing during this time is training and educating our team.

- First, our entire team is well trained and educated on proper infection control, infectious disease, sterilization and is professionally certified on all OSHA standards through extensive annual training.
- Our team has had refresher training in proper hand washing techniques. This may seem basic. However, it is the most important thing that we can do to prevent the spread of Covid-19, among other viral and bacterial infections. Consequently, we have spent a significant amount of time ensuring that our team does it well and often, especially before and after every patient encounter.
- We have implemented Enhanced Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) measures and trained on the appropriate use prior to caring for a patient in order to prevent contamination.
- We will have every team member record their temperature at the beginning of every work day and will send home anyone with an elevated temperature (100.4 degrees and above).
- We have created a specific checklist of recommendations for our team to follow so that they arrive to work healthy and return home to their families without worry.

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Recommendations for Our Team

Before Coming to Work

- Remove all jewelry and leave at home
- Tie long hair back and keep fingernails trimmed short
- Avoid extra accessories
- If bringing food to work, use disposable wrapping and discard

At Work

- Change into scrubs and work shoes (preferably plastic and wipeable)
- Use PPE as appropriate
- Eliminate clutter (pens, phones, etc.)
- Do not use other workers phones, desks, computers and tools if possible
- Clean phones, pens, computers, mice after use
- Minimize cell phone usage at work

After Work

- Wash hands and arms with soap
- Remove scrubs to be laundered at the office
- Wash hands and put clean clothes on
- Sanitize phone, glasses, etc.
- Wash hands again

At Home

- Do not touch anything
- Immediately remove shoes and clothing and wash clothes
- Shower immediately before touching anything (including loved ones)

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Patient Interviews and Social Distancing

Before Patient Arrival, Every Effort is Made to

- Screen patients during scheduling and confirmation phone calls
- Reschedule patients who experience any warning signs or temperature
- Instruct patients to call ahead and reschedule if they develop symptoms of respiratory infection (cough, sore throat, fever).
- Instruct patients to brush their teeth at home prior to their appointment.

To Promote Social Distancing

- If possible, adult patients should arrive to their appointments alone. If an escort is required, they should wait in the car to limit the number of people in the waiting room.
- We will utilize a “virtual” waiting room; we will encourage patients to wait in their car where they can be contacted by phone when their treatment room is available.

Safety Measures Upon Arrival

- Post visual alerts at entrance door advising patients of Covid-19 and advising them not to enter the facility when ill.
- Due to limited PPE, we recommend that patients wear their own mask or face covering into the facility.
- Provide supplies such as hand sanitizer, tissues and no touch receptacles for disposal.
- Post images in the waiting room to provide patients instructions about hand hygiene and cough etiquette.

These measures can help to prevent transmission

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Measures Upon Arrival of Patient

Patients are

- Advised to wash hands or given hand sanitizer to use
- Asked to rinse with 1% Hydrogen Peroxide rinse before appointment
- Escorted to operator as quickly as possible to minimize social contact
- Screened for symptoms, travel or Covid-19 contact
- Assessed for respiratory symptoms and checked for fever
- If temperature is greater than 100.4 or symptoms are present, they will be advised to seek medical care and rescheduled



Measures Taken Upon Entry into the Clinic

- If operator is not readily available, ensure distancing in waiting room by placing seating a minimum of 6 ft. apart.
- Remove anything that is not readily disinfected from the waiting room (toys, magazines, etc.)
- Frequent sanitizing of waiting room, bathrooms and all surfaces, handles and switches
- Use of UV-C and HEPA filtration units in the office and ventilation system
- Use of UV-C light disinfection of all operatories in addition to normal sterilization measures

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