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Dr. Carollo's Office on the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) and Infection Control

Updated March 17, 2020

My staff and I want to ensure the health of all our patients and their families. As of March 17, 2020, the American Dental Association, (ADA) and the New Jersey ADA, (NJADA), are asking dentists to postpone all dental elective procedures for the next three weeks.

Effective March 17, through April 5, 2020, we will not be seeing patients for routine dental care. Dental procedures like your routine hygiene/cleaning visits, recommended crowns, filling, etc. will be re-scheduled on or after Monday April 6, 2020. Rest assured we are here for you from March 17th through April 4th for any emergency dental care. If you have any dental concerns that need immediate attention, please call our office during this time. We are all hoping to resume our normal patient care on Monday April 6th, but this is subject to the ADA, NJADA and other governing bodies.

I also want to keep you informed about our infection control and the recent COVID-19; (coronavirus) pandemic. We also know you are concerned about this. As your dental health office, we want you to know that the safety of you and your family is our top priority. We should also emphasize that while we are all concerned about the COVID-19; (coronavirus) the overall risk to the general public remains low.

We have always done:

- We always use proper sterilization, for all our dental instruments.
- We always monitor our autoclave sterilization weekly with Emory University.
- We always use personal protective equipment, (gloves, masks, eyewear), for all procedures.
- We always use proper hand washing technique.
- We disinfect all environmental surfaces after each patient.
- We use disposable items when indicated.

I encourage you to use the same prevention methods that are the CDC recommendations during this COVID-19 pandemic.

The best ways to protect yourself include:

- Wash your hands** often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, **use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol**. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth** with unwashed hands.
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- When Sneezing**; use a tissue to cover your nose and mouth, and then dispose of the tissue and wash your hands with soap or hand sanitizer. If you don't have tissues, **sneeze** into the part of your sleeve covering the inside of your elbow rather than your hand, because the fabric soaks up the germs and prevents them from spreading.

As always thank you for allowing us to be your dental health care provider and rest assured we are always doing what is needed to provide you with the best and latest in dental care, in a safe environment. (Updates on this to follow)

Respectfully,

John A. Carollo, DMD

John A. Carollo, DMD and Staff