

**Dear Patient,**

We hope this letter finds you and your family in good health. While many things have changed, one thing has remained the same: our commitment to your safety. Infection control has always been a top priority for our practice and you may have seen this during your visits to our office. Our infection control processes are made so that when you receive care, it's both safe and comfortable.

Our office follows 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 that may be issued.

- You may see some changes when it is time for your next appointment. We made these changes to help protect our patients and staff. For example:
- Our office will communicate with you beforehand to ask some screening questions. You'll be asked those same questions again when you are in the office.
- We will ask you to wait in your car and call us when you arrive. We will let you know when you can enter the office. This ensures proper social distancing. If you are more than 15 minutes late we will ask you to reschedule.
- We ask for only the patient to enter the office. Companions will need to wait in the car. If a patient is a minor we ask that only one parent comes with them to their appointment.
- Please wear your own mask when you enter our office and put it on when we are not working in your mouth.
- We ask you to take your temperature at least an hour before your appointment and we will take your temperature when you arrive at the office. If you have a temperature above 100.4 we will ask you to reschedule. Staff is also taking their temperature prior to seeing patients.
- We will have you rinse your mouth with a mouthwash consisting of hydrogen peroxide.
- We will have HEPA 13 filtration systems set up throughout the office.
- We have hand sanitizer that we will ask you to use when you enter the office. You will also find some in the reception area and other places in the office for you to use as needed.
- You may see that our waiting room will no longer offer magazines, children's toys and so forth, since those items are difficult to clean and disinfect.
- Appointments will be managed to allow for social distancing between patients. That might mean that you're offered fewer options for scheduling your appointment.
- We will do our best to allow greater time between patients to reduce waiting times for you, as well as to reduce the number of patients in the reception area at any one time.

We look forward to seeing you again and are happy to answer any questions you may have. To make an appointment, please call our office at **253-854-5748**. Please visit our website at [stevennotvedtdds@gmail.com](mailto:stevennotvedtdds@gmail.com). Thank you for being our patient. We value your trust and loyalty and look forward to welcoming back our patients, neighbors and friends.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Nodtvedt and Team*