



Para leerlo en español

"One who gains strength by overcoming obstacles possesses the only strength which can overcome adversity." A. Schweitzer

UNPRECEDENTED

Dear Patient,

I hope this note finds you well. 🙌 I keep hearing the term "unprecedented times". Undoubtedly, we have all faced a great deal of changes and likely, **OBSTACLES**, these last couple months with COVID-19, but I cannot help but think that in some ways, much of these obstacles are **NOT** actually unprecedented for our patients of Affordable Dental Care, at all. From ground zero of *entrepreneurship, to self-employment, laid off, sudden loss of a long term job, budget cuts, reduced hours, reduced pay, estrangement, loneliness, lack of customers, choosing between rent and other necessities, ministry, illness, even the loss of health or life of a loved one--* these are the stories of our patients, long before COVID-19. We don't know everyone's story, but we know everyone has one that has caused you to seek our services. We are thinking of you and are **SO PROUD** of you for gaining strength.

I'm humbled by the donations that have come in to keep us open to serve, purchase proper protective equipment and all the necessary dental supplies during this time.

I'm extremely fortunate to have such a **dedicated** and **gritty** team. 💜 The adversity we've faced could have derailed us, robbing the team of its drive and dampening our will to move forward. Lesser teams would have crumbled, but we've managed to turn adversity into opportunity and while I know it takes a lot to be able to say that about the team, I can confidently say that much of our inspiration comes from those whom we have the privilege of serving, **you!** Thank you for being our biggest supporters. <3

While coronavirus is still lurking, some earlier orders are being lightened or lifted. Although dentistry has remained essential, if you've been keeping up to date with our emails, [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#) posts, you know we have focused these last few weeks on only treating emergency dental needs as described by the WDA, ADA, and the sweet visual chart of our partners at Delta Dental. Thank you for understanding our dedication to flatten the curve while also doing our part in keeping our local ERs unburdened with dental emergencies.

Like many local dental clinics, we continue to prepare to open more of our services but we are still focusing on most urgent needs first. Please be patient with us as we try to prioritize pain, swelling, broken and missing teeth. Additionally, beginning in May, we will be offering dental care for other urgent dental needs, including treatment that was started before the COVID-19 crisis and treatment of advanced periodontal disease which is an active infection in the gums that poses threat to oral health *and* overall health, including the immune system. If an appointment time becomes available and is offered to you, YOU GET TO DECIDE if you would like to schedule; there is no pressure! From this week's update from the American Dental Association here are some considerations for dental appointments:

You cannot be seen if you:

1. Have any COVID-19 symptoms: fever of more than 100.4, cough, loss of taste/smell, sore throat, trouble breathing, and other flu like symptoms.
2. Have known exposure to anyone with COVID-19 in the past 14 days

We recommend waiting or consulting your medical doctor if you:

1. Have immuno compromising conditions, including but not limited to diabetes, heart conditions, etc.

Because we expect an increase in the amount of patients we will be seeing beginning in May, we ask that you:

1. Check in with us when you arrive to the clinic parking lot. (Call or in person)
2. Once checked in, please wait in your car* until we call or text you (be sure we have your cell #)

*If you have taken public transportation and you are not comfortable outside, you may use our reception area.

3. Please do not bring non-patients inside unless accompanying a minor or an adult with special needs.
4. Use 1 sanitizer pump or soap and sink for 20 seconds before and after your appointment.

Our clinic has purchased a proper supply of 🧤 **Personal Protective Equipment** including gloves, masks, full face shields, office-only shoes, lab coat change between patients, HEPA air filters, high-volume evacuation and on-site laundry facility. While we like to be as personable as possible, our clinicians will be wearing a mask throughout treatment and conversation in the treatment room. Our front desk has plastic barriers up. Please know we care as much as we did before and these new standards are not meant to be less personable, but to ensure as little cross contamination as possible while more is still being learned about the virus.

Thank you for your understanding and support. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call us at 608-622-4002.

Sincerely,
Krysta Wetzel
Executive Director

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