

Working with Newburyport Family Dental

NEWBURYPORT FAMILY DENTAL AND THE CORONAVIRUS

WHAT IS THE CORONAVIRUS?

According to the World Health Organization, Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that may cause illness in animals or humans. In humans, several Coronaviruses are known to cause respiratory infections ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). The most recently discovered Coronavirus is known as COVID-19. COVID-19 can be spread in a similar way to other Coronaviruses. Standard infection control guidelines such as frequent hand washing, covering your mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, and keeping distance from people who are sick apply to prevent the spread of the disease.

HOW WE CONTROL INFECTIONS AS PART OF OUR STANDARD SERVICE

We built our service in accordance with CDC and other health, safety, and privacy guidelines. As a normal practice, our clinical team follows CDC guidelines for infection control and prevention within the dental office

- Our hygienists use individually packaged sterile instruments for each patient.
- All surfaces in the room where the appointment occurs are sanitized before and after each appointment.
- During each appointment, our hygienist uses appropriate personal protective equipment such as gloves and masks in accordance with infection control guidelines.
- All waste is self-contained and properly disposed of at the end of each day.

WHAT WE WILL DO IF A HYGIENIST IS ILL OR QUARANTINED

We have implemented our own Coronavirus policy for all employees. No hygienist will be treating patients or come to our offices who, in accordance with CDC guidance,

- has any cold or flu-like symptoms
- has been in a CDC-designated Level 3 high risk area in the past 14 days
- has been in close contact with someone who has been in a CDC-designated Level 3 high risk area in the past 14 days
- has been exposed to potential infection, or
- has been instructed to self-quarantine for any reason.

In the event that a hygienist is not able to care for patients, and no other hygienist is available, we will notify the client and patients that we need to reschedule the visit.

WHAT PATIENTS SHOULD DO IF THEY FEEL SICK, HAVE RECENTLY TRAVELED, OR CANNOT COME TO THEIR APPOINTMENT

If a patient has a fever or flu-like symptoms OR if they or someone they have been in close contact with has been in a high-risk country in the last 14 days prior to their appointment date, they should NOT come to their appointment and should contact us to reschedule.

WHAT PATIENTS SHOULD DO IF THEY NEED TO RESCHEDULE A VISIT

Patients with upcoming office visits should inform our office of any updates and changes related to the Coronavirus. If a patient needs to reschedule a visit due to the Coronavirus outbreak, they should reach out to the office as soon as possible to reschedule.

For any questions or concerns, or to reschedule an appointment or company visit, please contact us at **Manager@NewburyportFamilyDental.com** or **(978) 462-2530**.

