



**Richard A. Murdoch D.D.S.**

*Smiles are our specialty*

October 2020

Dear Valued Patients:

I hope this letter finds you and your family happy and healthy. As you probably already know, our office reopened in May from the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown. Everyone has been through a lot over the past few months as a result of the COVID virus, and we are all looking forward to resuming our previous routines. One thing that will not change is my commitment to keep you and your family safe and comfortable during your appointment. We will continue to adhere to the strictest infection control guidelines and make adjustments as necessary. Patient safety is our highest priority.

We are happy to report that dental offices are extremely safe. The following article is from the daily journal from the American Dental Association (ADA):

In an opinion piece for the [Bangor \(ME\) Daily News \(9/22\)](#), Dr. Jonathan Shenkin, a former ADA vice president and past president of the Maine Dental Association, says that since the coronavirus pandemic began, “there still isn’t a single known case of transmission of coronavirus in a dental setting between a patient and dental staff member,” which he attributes “to adherence to strict infection control guidelines that have long been in place in dental offices.” Dr. Shenkin adds that “dental offices are one of the safest health care facilities for the public to be, and dental care should remain an essential health care service as the pandemic continues.”

I want to review our current office protocol:

- Please make sure you have your mask on as soon as you enter the building and wear it until we seat you in the operatory.
- To support social distancing, we limit the number of people in our waiting room, please arrive 5 minutes before your designated appointment time. This will allow time for us to take your temperature and have you complete your COVID paperwork. Please do not bring siblings, friends or relatives who do not have a scheduled appointment. Only scheduled patients will be allowed in the treatment and common areas of our office.
- Upon arrival to our office, please use the hand sanitizer on the counter.
- Patients will be given an antimicrobial rinse (that helps kill or stop the growth of microorganisms) to use before their procedure starts.
- We are wearing the appropriate shields, masks and uniforms for each procedure as determined by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and ADA.
- To further ensure your safety, our entire office has been disinfected including the reception area, treatment rooms, restrooms, waiting room/front desk area, and all other spaces inside our practice. All door handles, light switches and countertops will be wiped down throughout the day, and all non-essential items such as magazines and displays have been removed.
- HEPA advanced air filters have been installed in strategic areas in our office.
- We want to assure you that we have always had rigorous sterilization and disinfecting protocols in place and will continue to follow them as they mirror the CDC recommendations. A medical grade surface disinfectant that kills all known infectious diseases is used in each operatory, after every appointment. We have always made the health and safety of our patients our number one priority and will continue to do so.
- Please take your temperature for several days before your appointment. Call our office to reschedule your appointment if you have a fever, dry cough or flu-like symptoms, or have been in close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 and/or are medically compromised (high-risk

to contract virus).

I look forward to seeing you again and want to sincerely thank you for being our patient and for your continued support. I am extremely grateful for each and every one of you! If you have any questions please call the office at 303-355-6340 or send an email to [information@murdochdds.com](mailto:information@murdochdds.com) and we will be glad to help you!

Sincerely,

Richard A. Murdoch D.D.S, PC