



SAMPLE LETTER TO PATIENTS:

MESSAGE FROM YOUR DENTAL TEAM:

We, at [Office name], take your health very seriously and are continually monitoring the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) situation. To protect our patients and dental team members, we closely adhere to the CDC's guidelines regarding sterilization and sanitizing and are also taking extra precautions.

The U.S. Center for Disease Control recommends the following measures to reduce the risk of contracting COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after using the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing.
- If no soap available use hand sanitizer with 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect with wipes or spray, frequently touched objects at work, home, on planes
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.
- Maintain social distancing of 6 feet and:
 - o **Refrain from:**
 - § *Eating out at restaurants and in food courts, consider take out,*
 - § *Going to the movies, bars, gyms, play dates, casinos, social gatherings of over 10 people etc., and avoid public transportation (buses, Uber, trains etc.)*
- Older individuals 65 and older refrain from travel and stay at home

What to do if you have:

- Temperature of 100.4 degrees or greater, **CALL YOUR DOCTOR**
- Difficulty breathing, **GO TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM**
- Chills, headache, body aches, dry cough, and fever, **CALL YOUR DOCTOR FOR GUIDANCE. IF UNABLE TO BE TESTED, SELF-QUARANTINE 15 DAYS.**
- If someone in your home has tested positive, **QUARANTINE ALL IN THE HOME FOR 15 DAYS**

We will be here for patients with true dental emergencies, such as: pain, swelling, bleeding, broken teeth, broken orthodontic wires, etc. Call our office [] for emergency appointments. For the safety and well-being of our patients and dental team we ask that:

- You defer non-urgent appointments until April ?, 2020
- You practice excellent oral hygiene. Brush for 2 minutes twice a day and floss!

SPECIAL NOTE: To minimize the risk of bacteria and inflammation spreading throughout your body and further compromising your existing condition, patients with diabetes, heart conditions, arthritis, respiratory/lung disorders, those on multiple medications, immunocompromised, those with alcohol use disorder, and pregnant women in their late trimester **MUST** have excellent oral hygiene. If you are a smoker, stop immediately! Your body can't be healthy if your mouth is not healthy.

Please know that we are deeply committed to you and will continue to monitor developments. We will communicate with you as necessary and ask you to please call us if you have any questions. Visit our web site { } for updates and additional information.

Sincerely,