



Dear Patients and Friends of Lakeside Dentistry,

The Washington State Department of Health has recommended that all elective and nonessential dental procedures be postponed until further notice as a means to try to “flatten the curve” of the spread of coronavirus COVID-19. We are complying with this recommendation. Only patients who have pain and/or infection will be seen. If you have an emergency dental need please call the office at (509) 494-0121. Dr. Tritinger and/or Dr. Mendoza will be available for those in need.

We have implemented procedures that are recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention(CDC), Washington State Department of Health and the American Dental Association to help keep you and our staff healthy during this time of uncertainty and concern over the spread of COVID-19.

The following are some of the procedures in place:

- In addition to our usual cleaning, disinfecting and universal precautions all high touch areas in the office are being cleaned with more frequency with EPA approved disinfectants.
- Patients are asked to arrive as close to their appointment time as possible (avoid arriving very early) to minimize contact in the waiting area. If you feel more comfortable feel free to call from your car when you arrive at the office to check-in. We will call you back when we are ready to seat you.
- We will have hand sanitizer available at check-in. Please clean your hands with the sanitizer upon entering the building and prior to checking-out.
- Everyone who enters the office will be asked to fill out an acute illness symptom questionnaire to screen for anyone who may be at risk of having the virus. We are asking anyone who may be accompanying a patient to their visit to fill one out as well. The **most common** symptoms of COVID-19 are fever, cough, and shortness of breath. These symptoms range from mild to severe. Some have reported a sore throat as well. If you, or anyone in your household, are experiencing/or have experienced any of these symptoms please contact our office prior to your visit at (509) 494-0121 as we may need

to reschedule. From the Washington Department of Health website: *“If you have fever, cough or shortness of breath and have not been around anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID- 19, you should stay home away from others until 72 hours after the fever is gone and symptoms get better. “*

- Please notify us if you, or anyone you have had close contact with, have traveled outside of the U.S. in the last 14 days.
- Only one parent/guardian/caregiver will be allowed in the office with a minor or patient who requires assistance. We ask that siblings not be brought to the office unless they have an appointment as well. Again this is to minimize contact.

The health and safety of our patients and staff is priority number one. I hope you understand the need for these temporary inconveniences at Lakeside Dentistry. These measures will help to protect you, our Lakeside Dentistry family, and importantly the members of our patient population and community who are most at risk. Please contact our office at (509) 494-0121 with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Dr. Karen Tritinger-Young and staff at Lakeside Dentistry