

March 18, 2020

## UPDATE: Further Steps to Mitigate the Spread of Coronavirus

Paola Family Dentistry's highest priority is the safety and wellbeing of our patients and staff. We are continually adapting to guidelines set forth by the Kansas Dental Association (KDA), Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), CDC, as well as other local and state Public Health Departments.

### All Non-Essential Treatment Will Be Postponed

At this time, the KDA has recommended postponing all non-essential dental treatment for the next three weeks. Effective March 19, 2020, we will be seeing emergency patients by appointment only.

### In the Event of a Dental Emergency, Please Call to Schedule

If you are experiencing a dental emergency such as pain, trauma, or infection, please CALL our office to schedule. **At this time, we are requesting that you please do not stop by the office to schedule in person.** Our lobby will be closed, and we will not be accepting walk-ins for any reason.

In order to do our part in reducing the patient load in hospital Emergency Departments, we will triage emergencies and schedule accordingly. We understand this may be an inconvenience to you and appreciate your compliance to help keep everyone safe and help prevent transmission of COVID-19.

### Additional Precautions

In the event that you are having a dental emergency such as pain, trauma, or infection, please note that we may be taking additional precautions at your appointment such as:

- Use of a questionnaire regarding recent travel to evaluate potential risk
- Use of a temporal thermometer to take temperature
- All patients will be asked to wash or sanitize their hands upon entrance to the practice
- Use of 1% hydrogen peroxide oral rinse before your appointment to reduce microbial load
- We may request patients wait in their cars instead of in the waiting area to reduce potential transmission
- Accompanying individuals may be asked to wait in their cars instead of in the waiting area to reduce potential transmission
- We have removed all toys, magazines, etc. from patient areas to prevent contamination

We will continue to monitor the situation and inform you of changes as they develop. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if there is anything we can do to better serve you.

To your continued health and safety,

Dr. Travis Howard

