The next generation of safe surgical dentistry is now being put into practice by Dr. Jochen Pechak, founder of the Perio & Implant Centers in Monterey and Silicon Valley. The centers have always taken great pride in disease prevention, and now more than ever before, Dr. Pechak and his team are prepared to meet the challenge of the coronavirus pandemic.

Getting safe dental treatment is not new to the trained surgical team, but now more than ever, is a necessity for people who want to stay healthy, and it’s important for periodontal disease to be treated as soon as possible so that it does not worsen and risk the patient’s overall health and well-being. Likewise, dental implants to replace missing teeth does much more than improve a person’s appearance—they are needed to preserve the health of the jaw bone structure, and to insure proper chewing for today and the future years to come.

Dr. Pechak’s goal is to make sure that every patient who needs dental implants, and/or prompt treatment for gum disease and dental emergencies, is able to get it while being assured of their safety from viruses. The Perio & Implant Centers have added several features that provide further protection against the threat of COVID-19.

Dr. Pechak does everything possible to make sure that patients are able to keep their teeth for life. To ensure patients’ absolute safety during the pandemic, the centers have added measures to invest in the health and safety of their team and patients.

To raise the bar to today’s standards, the offices have additional COVID-safe implementations to maintain the surgical gold standard of care, including:

- A socially distanced reception area, with complimentary sanitizing of cell phones and keys by UVC blue sanitizers to use while seated, as well as a wipe-down sanitizing after each check in and out in the reception area. A Plexi barrier sneeze-shield is in place at the centers’ front counters to ensure the safest environment possible.

- One-on-one screening at check-in, prior to entrance, including a no-touch temperature scan, a complimentary personalized mask, anti-COVID rinse station, as well as a UV bar scan to kill any viruses living on the surface of clothes, keys and wallets, in addition to complimentary UV phone sanitizers along with the traditional hand sanitizers and wipes.

- COVID testing offered and required, for any surgical patients on the day of treatment by RapidTEST™with a 10-minute result for the antibodies of COVID-19.

- Sneeze Guard Plexi Barriers at our front desk, and other protections such as team face shield, mask and gloves is of course, prepared for today’s standard.

- Air purification units by Surgically Clean Air™, a leader in hospital grade air filtration for emergency & operating rooms, providing continuous viral-killing clean air to patients in every room, at a rate of more than 200 percent necessary for the space, ensuring any airborne viruses and bacteria is immediately and consistently eliminated, surrounding our patients with continuous germ-free air.

- UVC ozone light whole room disinfection after each patient, in addition to wipe-down sanitization and Surgically Clean Air units.

- The Perio & Implant Centers are among the first to use and produce their own ozone water for use in their treatment room water systems. This means that any water used during exams and treatment is anti-viral, providing an additional layer of protection to the centers’ anti-COVID rinse, provided to every patient upon entrance as well as in the treatment rooms, and to all team members.

- A negative pressure hospital grade aerosol suction unit is deployed during all incidents where water is used, providing added protection from any aerosols or airborne water droplets, in addition to the ozone water that is anti-viral used in all water systems, during any treatment and exam.
• Upon checkout, a UV wand is available to wave over patients, giving another layer of assurance that everyone departs, germ free.

These measures will be in place in addition to traditional hand sanitizers and no-touch card scanners for a fast and easy exit.

As a surgical dental practice, Dr. Pechak and his surgically trained team of professionals have always maintained a surgical grade, germ-free level of safety and care.

Dr. Pechak and his team will continue to offer the procedures and service that patients have come to expect and rely upon. Treating periodontal disease, an inflammatory disease caused by bacteria, is a priority, because it affects the soft tissues and hard structures that support teeth.

“We are in the business of saving teeth whenever possible. If they’re not salvageable, we do a tooth removal,” says Dr. Pechak. “We graft bone if necessary, and place dental implants. The implants, with an artificial titanium root, are an excellent solution for missing teeth. However, the best option is always saving the natural tooth for the patient, provided the tooth is still stable, and we are able to control inflammation.”

Replacing the natural tooth with an implant requires careful planning and the use of today’s technology for success, says Dr. Pechak. Using a 3D tomographic scanner or dental CT scan, Dr. Pechak scans the patient’s teeth and jaw to get a sense of how much bone he has to work with. Next, he creates a computer simulation of the new tooth in place, using virtual reality to place the tooth prior to the actual surgery. This extra step enables him to make sure it fits the patient’s mouth perfectly. This is important for stability as well as aesthetics.

“This process of using ‘3D Cad Cam’ planning creates a custom surgical guide for each patient,” says Dr. Pechak, “eliminating guesswork, and yielding a super-precise implant. The results are and success rate are excellent. We are passionate about our five-star care and never cut corners or take the easy route.”

Patients who experience gum recession might have exposed tooth roots. Because the root is softer than tooth enamel, it is more prone to cavities. Dr. Pechak offers plastic surgery of the gums to cover the root and protect the health of the tooth.

The Perio & Implant Center offers a pairing of progressive technology and expertise with compassionate care. Understanding that many people avoid going to the dentist due to anxiety or fear, Dr. Pechak provides the latest in minimally invasive options with various levels of sedation, including general anesthesia for those who want to be completely out during treatment.

“It is essential that we take care of our teeth and gums,” Dr. Pechak says, “because of the effects this can have on the rest of our health. A healthy mouth is the doorway to a healthy life, and fear not, we have securely arranged for safe treatment and protection in the fight against COVID-19.”