



## **COVID-19 Pandemic Dental Treatment Notice and Acknowledgement of Risk**

**Our goal is to continually provide a safe environment for our patients and staff, and to promote the safety of our local community. This document provides information we ask you to acknowledge and understand regarding the COVID-19 virus.**

**The COVID-19 virus is a serious and highly contagious disease. The World Health Organization has classified it as a pandemic. You could contract COVID-19 from a variety of sources. Our practice wants to ensure you are aware of the additional risks of contacting COVID-19 associated with dental care.**

**The COVID-19 virus has a long incubation period. You or your healthcare providers may have the virus and not show symptoms, but still be highly contagious. Determining who is infected by COVID-19 is challenging and complicated due to the availability and length of time necessary to receive results for virus testing.**

**We adhere to strict safety guidelines, including hepa filters installed in each operatory. Due to the frequency and timing of visits by other dental patients, the characteristics of the virus, and the characteristics of dental procedures, there is an elevated risk of you contracting the virus simply by being in the dental office.**

**Even though we have installed barriers between the operatory chairs, dental procedures produce water spray and the ultra-fine nature of the water spray can linger in the air for a long time, allowing for the transmission of the COVID-19 virus to those nearby.**

**Our staff is equipped with the highest levels of Personal Protective Equipment to perform your dental treatment. Unfortunately, you cannot wear a protective mask over your mouth to prevent infection during treatment as your healthcare providers need access to your mouth to render care. This leaves you vulnerable to COVID-19 transmission while receiving dental treatment.**

**Pursuant to the statements from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the American Dental Association (ADA) a weak or compromised immune system (including conditions such as diabetes, asthma, COPD, undergoing cancer, radiation or chemotherapy treatment) increase the risk and severity of the COVID-19 virus. Upon discussing such conditions, we may ask you to consider rescheduling treatment to a later date.**