

## Letter from our Dental Team

November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020

Happy Fall, Compass Dental Patients!

Our Compass Dental clinics are up and running again at full capacity! We have invested in state-of-the-art equipment to help in combatting aerosolization to keep our dental operatories as safe as we possibly can for both our patients and team members!

At Compass we believe it is of the utmost importance to take everyone's health into consideration as we get back to full operations within our dental clinics. In addition to reducing the aerosolization we have also implemented rapid COVID testing prior to any aerosol producing procedure. The equipment that Compass has invested in allows our Dental Team to both test and have our patient's results within twenty minutes of their arrival to our clinic.

We have worked diligently to establish the safest measures possible to treat our patients. In our efforts to provide this standard of care, many things around the office have changed since we have last seen you:

**Upon Arrival:** All patients and visitors will be screened by front desk employees; temperatures will be taken at the door and a series of COVID exposure screening questions will be asked.

**COVID Testing:** For any of our patients requiring fillings, root canals, crowns, and cleanings will need to be tested prior to starting their treatment. When treating a tooth's surface during these procedures, an overspray is distributed throughout the operatory. Prior to creating such aerosols, we feel it imperative to ensure the patient does not have COVID. The rapid testing is very non-invasive. A quick shallow swab of the patient's nose allows for a comfortable and quick specimen collection. The patient will be informed of their results immediately. Should a patient test positive, he/she will be referred to his/her Primary Care Provider and local health department.

**Registration/Paperwork:** Patients will be seated promptly in the dental operatory to complete registration paperwork. If we do not have a space available upon arrival; patients may be asked to return to their vehicle to complete their paperwork. Our hope is to have enough space in our waiting area to allow for recommended social distancing.

**Prior to Procedures:** A member of our dental team will direct patients to a handwashing station or hand sanitizing station and ask that patients thoroughly wash/sanitize their hands. You will also be asked to swish with a preprocedural oral rinse to help combat the spread of any germs.

**During Procedures:** Our dental team will be wearing more PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) than normal. This may include N95 masks, face shields, head caps, and surgical gowns. Compass has also invested in state-of-the-art equipment to help combat aerosolization throughout the office including HEPA air purifiers, extraoral suction, and devices to help with intra-oral suction.

Lastly, we wanted to thank our patients for being so understanding in such uncertain times. This has been an unprecedented time in all our lives, and we are so grateful to our patients. Our top priority is the oral health of our patients and providing care in the safest environment possible!

Sincerely,  
Your Compass Dental Team