

To Our Patients~

In this time of uncertainty of how the Coronavirus will impact our daily lives, all of us at The Dental Center want to assure you that your health and safety is our primary concern.

Although we routinely follow and exceed strict infection control guidelines, we are immediately implementing several supplementary infection control measures.

In addition, we will pre-screen patients prior to dental visits. Until further notice, you will be contacted before your appointment and asked a few questions to assess if it's safe to come to the appointment. Likewise, we will encourage staff with symptoms to stay home.

If you currently feel sick, please reschedule your dental appointment and call your physician. This is especially true if you have a fever, cough, sneezing, or shortness of breath. **The same thing applies if you have had any of these symptoms in the last 48 hours.**

Please also reschedule your appointment if you have traveled outside the United States in the last two weeks to an area affected by the Coronavirus. This includes China, Hong Kong, Iran, Italy, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, or Vietnam.

Be assured we will continue to monitor CDC and Iowa Department of Public Health recommendations and will update our policies as information evolves.

The following are recommendations to help protect ourselves and each other:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially if you have been in a public place or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. Put distance between yourself and other people. This is especially important for people who are at a higher risk of getting very sick.
- Stay home if you're sick. Call a medical facility before arrival.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow. Throw used tissues in the trash. Immediately wash your hands.
- If you are sick, you should wear a facemask when you are around other people. If you are NOT sick, you do not need to wear a facemask unless you are caring for someone who is sick and they are unable to wear a facemask.
- Clean and disinfect frequently-touched surfaces daily.

Please give our office a call at (319) 365-0534 (Cedar Rapids location) or (319) 362-0043 (Hiawatha location) if you have any questions. Know that we are committed to continuing to provide you and your loved ones the highest quality of dental care possible. We look forward to seeing you at your next appointment.

Take care of yourself and others,

Your Dental Center Family