

***The ADA (American Dental Association) and the AZDA (Arizona Dental Association) have issued statements asking that dental offices to stay open during this time to alleviate any extra burdens emergency dental care would put on our Emergency Rooms.***

**What Prescott Dentistry is doing:**

Our office will remain open to treat patients with emergent and essential care dental needs.

We are asking that all patients scheduled for regular dental cleanings or elective treatment that are not in pain and/or have no dental concerns reschedule their cleaning for a later date.

**How do you decide whether or not to keep your scheduled treatment appointment amid COVID 19 concerns?**

To decide, it is important for you to know what we consider to be emergent and essential care dental needs.

Our Dentists consider any oral condition that presents with pain, discomfort, swelling, trauma or bleeding as emergent needs. Essential dental care is anything that is causing discomfort that could become emergent in the near future if not treated.

For further explanation, please [click here](#) to read the ADA Patient Handout regarding what constitutes a “Dental Emergency”.

Ultimately, it is up to you. You know your health status and body better than anyone. You must weigh all of your risk factors. It is our job to give you as much information as we can to make that decision.

We recommend that emergent and essential care appointments be kept to PREVENT further pain, discomfort, swelling and/or infection. Your overall health has always been our #1 priority. Delaying dental problems only makes the issue worse over time. Tooth decay, infection, cracked/broken teeth can all cause dental abscesses. An infection or abscess in the mouth can be life-threatening and should be dealt with immediately.

**If you plan on coming to your emergent or essential care appointment, here is what you should know:**

We have numerous safety measures in place to keep our team and our patients healthy.

We use Universal Patient Precautions, every day, on every patient **and we always have.** (Universal precautions is an approach to infection control to treat all human blood and certain human body fluids as if they were known to be infectious for blood borne pathogens.)

We use medical grade cleaner in clinical rooms in between every patient and on all patient-contact surfaces throughout our office.

We wear surgical masks, face shields and gloves to protect our patients and ourselves during treatment.

When patients arrive, we have new protocols in place:

Prior to appointing, patients will be asked COVID 19 pre-screening questions about their recent health, exposure risks and travel.

To comply with “social distancing” every patient will be asked to call us when they arrive and wait in the parking lot until their appointment time.

Every patient will be given a COVID 19 Screening Intake Form ([click here](#)) to sign prior to treatment.

Prior to treatment, patients will use a 1.5% hydrogen peroxide rinse– Coronavirus is susceptible to oxidation. This lowers the patient’s oral viral load and minimize viral load in any aerosols generated.

We will use ozonated water whenever using a hand piece is required during a dental procedure.

To verify that you have read and understand the above information, please sign and date below:

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_