

OFFICE CLOSED FOR THREE WEEKS DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC:

To our patients: due to the Covid-19 pandemic, The Smile Zone will be closed for the next three weeks, but will be available by phone for extreme dental emergencies. At this time, though this situation is evolving daily, we plan to reopen on Monday April 6th.

Please realize that this was a difficult decision, as we care deeply about the dental needs of our patients, but we feel it is the right decision in order to protect our patients, our staff and their families, our community, and our country's healthcare and hospital system. We have thoroughly considered recommendations from the American Dental Association, as well as the latest information from the World Health Organization about the particular high risk of aerosolizing viral particles (which dentists do by using a dental drill during procedures). Each of the dentists at The Smile Zone take seriously the Hippocratic Oath they took to "do no harm", and feel strongly that the only way to do so during this pandemic is to shut down the office. It is our ethical obligation to our patients and our social responsibility to our community.

In addition, we would like to take this opportunity to encourage anyone reading this to please stay home and limit their own social interactions. The only way to slow the spread of this virus is to avoid contact with others.

Below are some links to the information mentioned above:

ADA Recommendation:

<https://www.ada.org/en/publications/ada-news/2020-archive/march/ada-recommending-dentists-postpone-elective-procedures>

WHO Update: (24 minutes into this video they speak about airborne vs droplet spread and elevated risks associated with aerosolizing viral particles)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2RMI8yqo6Uk>

How you can help slow the spread of the virus, or flatten the curve:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2020/world/corona-simulator/>