Keeping you safe in a post COVID-19 world

As we all prepare to come back to some semblance of normalcy, we at Montana Dental Arts, wanted to take a few moments to outline what we do to keep you, our patients safe. Some of these items are precautions we have always taken; some are new to keep you safe in a post COVID-19 world. Regardless, the safety of both you and our team are of the utmost priority. Should you have any questions or concerns during your visit you are all welcome to contact us directly at the email address below.

Please ensure that you have reviewed Governor Bullock’s Reopening the Big Sky Phased Approach plan to ensure you make the appropriate choice for yourself to resume your dental care. We are currently in Phase I of the plan. You can find the details of the plan here. [REOPENING THE BIG SKY PHASED APPROACH](#)

There are some new precautions we have implemented which you may notice when you are scheduled or in the office. We are asking for your help and participation to ensure that our office and community is practicing social distancing.

- Screening of team members when they arrive each day.
- Scheduling to limit patient to patient contact.
- Pre-appointment screening questions to avoid sick patients entering the office when not necessary.
- Screening temperature taken at front desk prior to entering treatment area, patients will a temperature of over 100 degrees will be rescheduled.
- ReLeaf high speed suction used in hygiene rooms to remove aerosols.
- Additional cleaning done regularly in the non-treatment areas.
- Every patient will use a provided mouth rinse prior to treatment.
- Installation of air purification system in our HVAC system.
- Low contact check-in/check-out
  - **This is where you, our patient can help.** Going forward all paperwork will be done via computer or phone prior to your arrival at our office. Please ensure we have the best texting phone number and most current email address on file.
  - Please use the links sent to you to update all requested forms.
  - We ask that you do not bring anyone else to your appointment. Parents of a minor can check them in but we encourage you to wait in the car for the remainder of the appointment. All persons entering the building who are not on the schedule will be documented and screened.
  - We will begin to send all statements, appointment scheduling reminders and sign all paperwork electronically.
  - Please wait in your vehicle upon arrival. We will call or text you to come in when the clinical staff is ready for you.
  - We may request payment and schedule your next visit at your check in or upon arrival so you can leave the office directly after your appointment.
We have always taken infection control extremely seriously. We abide by the American Dental Association (ADA), and Montana Dental Board recommendations to use Standard Precautions.

This includes:

- Sterilizing instruments
- Using approved disinfectant to wipe all surfaces in each room between each patient
- Wearing gloves, masks and glasses while treating patients
- Regular hand washing or use of hand sanitizer in-between patients
- High Speed Evacuation system used in doctors rooms to remove aerosols
- Regular cleaning of our entire office
- Comprehensive health history being updated regularly

COVID-19 is a real concern and one which we do not take lightly. With that said, there are numerous other diseases which we are also protecting you from and have for years. These include HIV, Hepatitis A, B and C, tuberculosis, influenza, norovirus, and numerous others. The precautions to reduce the spread of COVID-19 are not significantly different than those mentioned above. Standard Precautions are in place to prevent the spread of any disease from patient to patient, patient to healthcare provider, or healthcare provider to patient. With that said, we have taken this opportunity to review our policies and improve them where we can. We feel implementing these additional measure will take an extra step to keep both our patients and team safe from all pathogens, even long after the COVID-19 crisis has passed.

As of now we are planning to return scheduling all types of dental appointments beginning May 4th. Should you have any questions or concerns please let us know.

Dr. David Wilcox & Team