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We hope this newsletter finds you and your family safe and in good health! With the full re-opening of the State of Connecticut happening, we wanted to take a few moments to update you on the precautions we will still be taking in our office and what you can expect at your next appointment with us.

We will continue to be vigilant to the COVID case numbers locally and pivot our protocols to provide additional safety measures as needed. Our top priority is providing you with a safe and healthy experience while in our office. We will continue to follow the guidelines for safe dentistry that were provided by the American Dental Association, the Connecticut Department of Public Health and the Ledge Light Health District.

Science has long recognized that the oral cavity is the gateway to the rest of the body, and oral health is critically important in supporting our immune systems.

We have always been a model of infection control management and seek to follow current, best practices in our industry. You can rest assured knowing that we are accustomed to working in an environment that presents unique aspects of infection control. We have, and always will, rise to the occasion to ensure every patient's safety while in our care.



Screenings & Additional Precautions Upon arrival to the office, we will continue to ask our patients to call us so that we may pre-screen everyone individually. We also ask that you sanitize your hands upon arrival and before leaving. You're welcome to wait in our reception area if there is space to socially distance from other patients or you can still choose to use your car as a personal waiting space. We do require that all patients wear a mask upon entering and while in the office. We're happy to provide one if needed. Prior to any procedure, we provide each patient with an antimicrobial mouth rinse that decreases the amount of microbes and bacteria in the mouth.



Personal Protective Equipment: As soon as recommendations for proper PPE were released in 2020, we worked to educate our entire team and acquire the PPE needed for safe dentistry. Every doctor, hygienist, and assistant has been N95 Fit Tested and will wear an N95 for any appointment that involves aerosols. These masks protect both the team and you, the patient, from cross-contamination of air. We'll also continue to use gowns, lab jackets, and face shields that are changed and disinfected between patients.



Disinfection: Infection control and disinfection continue to remain our primary focus. We have always taken great pride in our efforts to consistently provide a sterile environment. After pouring over research on the best products to add to our infection control arsenal, we settled on a couple of additional products. The first is a disinfectant that's been EPA approved to fight SARS-CoV2, known as Force of Nature. Force of Nature contains sodium hypochlorous acid and is safe, environmentally friendly, and a hospital grade level disinfectant. After a room has been wiped down and disinfected the traditional way, we use the Force of Nature in a fogging machine for additional disinfecting measures. We have also invested in Novareus air filters for every room in the office. These air filters are affectionately known as air disinfectants. They work by disinfecting the air through a plasma system, killing any and all germs. It only takes 10 minutes to disinfect the air in any room and they are run constantly, day and night, to ensure maximum cleanliness and safety.

“If you don't have an appointment, please contact our office so we can get you scheduled right away!”

Science has long recognized that the oral cavity is the gateway to the rest of our body and oral health is critically important in supporting our immune system. We will continue to watch COVID case trends and adapt as needed. We will continue to update you and share our newest precautions and protocols. Thank you for trusting us with your dental care. We look forward to seeing each and every one of you!

Kindly,
Dr. John R. Drew, Dr. Yuwika Raj Kumar & The Team at Drew Dental Group