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ADOPTION OF NEW INFECTION CONTROL MEASURES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

May 17, 2020

Re: Adoption of New Infection Control Measures in Response to COVID-19

Dear Friends:

We hope this letter finds you, your practice, and your family in good health. The dental community has been through a lot over the last few months, and all of us are looking forward to resuming care for our patients. While many things have changed, one thing has remained the same: our practice's commitment to providing a safe and comfortable experience for our patients.

Infection control has always been a top priority in our practice. In response to the recent recommendations and guidelines made by the American Dental Association (ADA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and the American Society of Dentist Anesthesiologists (ASDA), Ambulatory Dental Anesthesia Associates will be implementing the following additional safety precautions to help protect you and your patients.

- The anesthesiologist and his staff will be wearing protective gowns and face coverings at all times.
- Patients will be asked to check their temperature in the morning of his or her appointment. Anyone with a temperature of 100.0 °F or greater will be asked to postpone their appointment.
- A brief COVID-19 History and Symptoms Questionnaire will be conducted on the patient and his or her escort prior to their entry into the reception area. Anyone who answers positive to the questionnaire will be asked not be in the dental office. Any patient who answers positive to, or whose escort or anyone accompanying them answers positive to the questionnaire will be asked to reschedule their appointment.
- Patients and escorts will be asked to put on a face covering such as a cloth or a surgical mask prior to entering the reception area.
- Temperature will be taken on the patient and the escort upon entry into the reception area. Anyone whose temperature is 100.0 °F or greater will be asked not to be in the dental office. Any patient who has a temperature of 100.0 °F or greater, or whose escort or anyone accompanying them has a temperature of 100.0 °F or greater will be asked to reschedule their appointment.
- Patients will be asked to enter the reception room unaccompanied, if possible. For minor patients and those who require physical or psychological assistance of another person may be allowed to enter the reception room with the escort on a case-by-case scenario. The individual who enters the reception room with the patient **must be the same person** who will drive and assist the patient after the anesthesia.
- Parents with more than one child undergoing anesthesia on the same day will be asked to bring in one child after another. In such scenario, parent(s) will be asked to have additional adults available in the car who will be able to watch their other children while one is undergoing anesthesia.



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- Once the patient leaves the procedure room or the recovery room, it will be left unoccupied for 30 minutes for aerosol particles to descend prior to disinfecting and preparing the room for the following patient.

We are also requesting that you implement the following infection control guidelines at your practice:

- Wear face covering at all times in the dental office.
- Have alcohol based sanitizers available in the reception area.
- Implement social distancing measures in the reception room. Some offices have indicated that patients will call-in to the office from their cell phones prior to entering the reception area. This practice is highly encouraged, since it will allow the office staff to admit the patient into the reception room at a controlled pace in line with proper social distancing measures.
- Remove magazines, toys, and inanimate objects difficult to disinfect from the reception room.
- Request anyone who enters the office to have a face covering on prior to their entry.
- Conduct a COVID-19 triage on everyone who enters the dental office, including a temperature check and a history and symptoms survey. A sample of a COVID-19 History and Symptoms Questionnaire can be found on our website (www.ambulatoryda.com/forms).
- Limit the number of personnel in the treatment room to those essential for patient care procedural support with minimal exchange of staff for the duration of the case.
- Wait 30 minutes after the patient leaves the procedure room or the recovery room prior to disinfecting the room for the following patient.

The new measures reflect the current recommendations from various dental and anesthesia practice guidelines regarding the control of COVID-19, and will continually become modified as newer knowledge and recommendations emerge.

Please do not hesitate to contact us at (860) 561-1233 or nadia@ambulatoryda.com if you have any questions or would like to discuss our new infection control measures.

Thank you for your cooperation and always being part of the excellent patient care team.

We value your trust and loyalty and look forward to providing a safe and comfortable experience for our patients.

Yours,

Ambulatory Dental Anesthesia Associates

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