



Dear patients and parents,

The American Dental Association has recommended that dental offices nationwide should postpone all non-emergent dental visits and routine care appointments to control the spread of the Coronavirus.

At this time, I have decided to close the office starting today Tuesday March 17 until Monday March 30th, to flatten the curve and prevent the spread of the virus. This decision was not made lightly, but necessary in order to protect my patients, their families and my staff. If your child has a scheduled appointment during this time, my team will be in contact with you to get your child rescheduled.

My office manager and I have been monitoring the details of the current situation hourly and we have taken into consideration not only the recommendations by the American Dental Association and the Texas Dental Association, but also the updated recommendations by the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, CDC and OSHA. Dental procedures generate a large number of droplets and aerosols. The latest advice is that our standard personal protective equipment is not effective enough to prevent the spread of the COVID-19, especially when patients are in the incubation period and are unaware, they are infected. This is especially unique to our profession as the children are being found to be asymptomatic carriers. This means that screening is no longer considered effective in capturing all who may be infected with the virus. Continuing to provide elective dental treatment and cleanings currently is just not appropriate when trying to contain this virus.

OSHA has placed dental professionals in the “very high exposure risk” category regarding the COVID-19. Current recommendations are that dentists and team members wear N95 masks for dental procedures. However, not only are these masks extremely difficult to obtain at this time, but most importantly, they need to be conserved for the other professions that are at the forefront of fighting this virus.

If your child has a true dental emergency, please contact our office at 972-724-1617 and someone will assist you. Please do NOT go the Emergency Room, call our office first.

Rest assured that we are reading scientific and government recommendations, talking with local colleagues, and taking direction from our national organizations. We are sorry for any inconvenience that this may cause, but it is imperative that as a community, we take personal responsibility and slow the spread of this virus, and that requires extreme measures. We are aiming to help flatten the curve by implementing this policy.

We remain committed to the safety of you and your family! We appreciate your understanding as we all try to navigate through this unprecedented situation.

Stay Home and Stay healthy!

Thank you,

Debra C. Duffy, DDS