

# List of safe reopening considerations

- 1) Adhere to the ADA's posted PPE guidelines.
- 2) Make sure all protocols and procedures are explained completely and thoroughly to your staff. Have staff members sign a form that they understand the protocols and procedures and will follow them.
- 3) Set up waiting area with space for distancing patients. Signage in your waiting area that asks visitors not to move your furniture, as it is set up for social distancing.
- 4) Call or use Telehealth to speak with your patients the day prior to a scheduled appointment to discuss new office protocols, their upcoming visit and handle any paperwork via that call to limit their time in the office.
- 5) Use a COVID-19 Patient Consent Form.
- 6) Update your patient questionnaire to include questions that could screen for COVID-19.
- 7) Do not allow anyone to accompany the patient to the appointment but be sure to have emergency contact information. Unless the patient will be unable to drive after the appointment – then have someone pick them up. Use a stay in your car protocol until notified on your cell phone to enter the dental practice waiting room.
- 8) Take temperatures of employees before work. Take temperatures of patients prior to treatment.
- 9) Consider bringing back patients that need the most urgent care.
- 10) Consider starting with the least susceptible population.
- 11) Consider setting aside 1 day a week for geriatric patients.
- 12) Continue to request the COVID-19 test. If obtained – determine the best use of the test.
- 13) Put up plexiglass around patient check in/out areas if you do not already have a glass partition.
- 14) No shaking hands, hugging or personal contact.
- 15) Patients must sanitize hands upon entering office, upon entering operatory and exiting office.
- 16) Require a facial covering while in waiting area. Require facial covering remain on unless patient is receiving dental treatment. (provide them if necessary)
- 17) Have covered trash containers throughout the office. Foot pedal open or motion opening preferred.
- 18) Remove magazines and reading materials from your waiting area.
- 19) No shared children's toys in the waiting area or operatories.
- 20) Have a staff member responsible for monitoring the condition of your waiting room.

\*Please note: This is a list of guidelines to consider only. These considerations should not, in any way, be used in lieu of medical-based evidence, or any Federal Government mandates.