

Hello everyone! Your safety is important to us!!

With the ever-changing and uncertain times associated with the COVID-19 virus, Dr. Kendrick wanted to take a moment and provide an update with all we are doing to maintain your safety when you come visit us at the office. We are following the American Dental Association (ADA) and Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) guidelines and recommendations to maintain a happy, healthy, and safe work environment. This includes having social distancing policies to prevent families from crossing paths as they are entering and exiting the office. That begins from the parking lot as we ask families to call our office before they even leave their cars. We are also minimizing the amount of people in the office, especially the reception area. When a family is greeted at the front door by one of our staff, their temperatures are taken and they are asked a series of screening questions. If there is any temperature above 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit, then they are not able to enter the office. It is also mandatory for every person accompanying a patient to have a mask on throughout the **entire** appointment. Additionally, we are ensuring that each family has their own socially distanced space once in the office. All of our staff wears protective face coverings according to the ADA and CDC guidelines. Our staff also wears protective eye wear and a face shield when providing dental care. There are also numerous Plexiglass barriers in the front desk area to protect our front desk staff and you while you are checking in and out. As we did before COVID-19 and still, hard surfaces are wiped down with disinfectant wipes in the hygiene chairs and operative rooms once a patient and their family leaves. If you would like to read more on the CDC guidelines and recommendations for dental offices you can click here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/dental-settings.html>

As an extra precaution, in addition to the ADA recommendations, we are using Ultraviolet lamps in the treatment areas once a patient leaves. This ensures that any airborne particles in aerosols are inactivated and destroyed before the next patient arrives. Please see the following scientific article for more information about the effectiveness of the UV light for sterilization <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-018-21058-w> .We are using Ultraviolet light boxes to inactivate any remaining particles on the protective eyewear for the staff and the sunglasses the children wear. We also utilize handheld UV light wands for objects that do not fit into the boxes, such as the face shields. Finally, at the end of each day, we are using an Ozone and Ultraviolet lamp where the ozone air penetrates through surfaces where the light can't reach including cabinets, carpet, wall space, etc. inactivating leftover particles in the air or on surfaces. Please see below pictures of both the UV light boxes and UV lamps used in the office:



Your safety is important to us and we want to ensure the safety and security of your family during these uncertain times. Therefore, we are taking every precaution possible. If you have any additional questions and/or concerns please feel free to contact our office at 704-997-6431.