

Greetings again,

I hope this post finds you all snug and safe at home; making the best of this forced break from the daily grind.

We have continued to remain updated on the latest available information from the CDC and DOH, other state and federal agencies, as well as dental societies such as the ADA, ADHA, Washington and Oregon dental associations, various other dental associations and colleagues regarding the COVID-19 virus and Pandemic. Rest assured your health and safety is paramount.

The general risk of serious illness to most of us remains very low. Again, most of the extraordinary measures taken are to slow the spread of COVID-19 and “flatten the curve” as they say- which simply means they are trying to avoid a large spike in the number of people contracting the infection at the same time requiring medical care and straining our healthcare facilities. Federal agencies are strongly recommending those with chronic medical conditions and older individuals self-quarantine. They would also like the rest of us to practice social-distancing and isolate ourselves as much as possible... This would include avoiding elective dental procedures.

The situation remains fluid as they gather more data and learn more about COVID-19, incubation periods, how long a person is contagious, paths of transmission etc. We are still here and open and will remain so for emergent and urgent treatment... We don't want you in the ER for a toothache. However, for now, we are not scheduling any new elective or non-urgent treatment unless it is a few weeks out.

If you currently have an appointment we will contact you if I feel it is appropriate to reschedule you. If your appointment has been confirmed and you have not been advised otherwise, then we still plan to see you at this time.

I will continue to monitor guidance from the Washington Department of Health and will communicate any mandated or recommended changes to our operating procedures. According to the WSDA, an order in this regard is expected from the governor today or tomorrow.

We are keeping our front-line medical providers and country in our thoughts and prayers during the COVID-19 pandemic and hope for an expeditious return to “normal” for all of us.

Warm Regards,

Dr. Rinta