



## **Safety Protocols**

We are proud that our safety and infection control protocols have always exceeded the guidelines of both the ADA and CDC. Our office atmosphere provides one of safety to all who enter.



In light of the current Covid-19 Pandemic, we have added to our usual stringent practices. This document will outline the protocols that reflect the changes and upgrades to keep everyone safe. If you are experiencing any of the symptoms, fever, or have been in contact with anyone that has a confirmed positive test to Covid-19 we will reschedule your dental treatment.

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### General Safety Protocols

 Hand washing is the best way to prevent the spread of most infections. Wash your hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with soap and water and then dry hands.
 Proper hand-washing is the key. An alternative method is using an alcoholbased hand sanitizing solution. All employees at Vadhi Ohio Family Dental will wash hands upon arrival to the office, as well as before and after each patient encounter.



- Proper usage of PPE (personal protective equipment) such as gloves, masks, jackets/gowns, and face shields will be worn to protect you.
- Every person entering the office will be screened daily, including but not limited to completing a screening questionnaire and having your temperature taken. If you have a body temperature of 100 F or higher or refuse to have your temperature taken, you will be sent home.
- If you are found to have any of the risk factors associated with COVID-19, a follow-up series of questions will be asked and you will be required to answer and complete another form.
- If it is determined that a patient's screening is at all questionable, you will be sent home and will be asked to reschedule your appointment.

#### Team Guidelines

 Every team member will be screened daily. You will enter the building by the rear entrance, wash your hands with soap and water, and have your body temperature taken. If you are found to have a body temperature of 100 F or higher or you refuse to have your temperature taken, you will be sent home



- If any direct family member has any type of respiratory infection and/or fever, you will be asked to stay home.
- All team members are expected to keep all countertops clear of personal items and wiped down on a regular basis with disinfectants.
- Team members are expected to have excellent personal hygiene which includes hair tied back, fingernails kept short and clean.
- If you choose to keep an additional pair of shoes at the office, it will be your responsibility to keep the street shoes in your locker or away from others' personal property.
- It is mandatory that cell phones be kept away from patient treatment areas, cleaned regularly, and kept in a plastic bag. Cell phones are to be accessed only during lunch and at the end of the workday. This will help eliminate cross contamination.
- Before leaving the office, all team members must dispose of all PPE appropriately, disinfect and/or sanitize re-usable PPE, then wash hands with soap and water thoroughly.

### Pre-Screening Via Phone, Text, or Email

Prior to your dental appointment, we will call, text, and/or email you to confirm your appointment and review with you the Covid-19 screening questionnaire. Your answers will help us determine your risk of being infectious. If we determine that your answers confirm that either you or a member of your household could be infected, we will reschedule your appointment to an appropriate time.



- If you are required to complete a new medical history form (we require a new one each year), you will do so on an I-pad in your appointment room. You may request that this form be emailed to you prior to your visit.
- Upon arrival to our office, you will be asked to call the front office at (614) 864-6000 to let us know that you are here. We are limiting traffic in the reception area to one person at a time. If we are ready for you, you will be asked to enter the building. If not, your cell phone number will be taken and we will call you when it is your turn. When you are asked to enter the building, you will be given hand sanitizer and asked the same questions that were on the first questionnaire to ensure there have been no changes. After this, we will escort you to the Doctor/Hygienist for your scheduled appointment. You will be given a pre-rinse prior to dental treatment.
- If you are a high risk patient which includes, but is not limited to, over 65 years
  of age, immunocompromised, presence of cardiovascular disease (controlled
  or not controlled), we will make every effort to schedule you at times that have
  less traffic.

# Patient Protocols in Reception and Front Office



- Please call the office before leaving your vehicle to be sure that proper social distancing procedures are followed.
- Patients will be asked to enter the treatment room alone except where appropriate.
- You will be asked to use a hand sanitizing solution prior to entering treatment rooms. You will also be asked to use a pre-treatment rinse.
- We will be practicing social distance protocol which means no hand shaking and limiting the number of people in your treatment rooms.
- We will make every effort to stay on time with your scheduled appointment. However, please know that unexpected delays do occur in the dental setting. We kindly ask that you remain patiently in your vehicle until the office environment is again safe in terms of traffic.

## Patient Protocols in Reception and Front Office

- When you arrive to our office, you will notice some slight adjustments to our reception area. We have eliminated all magazines and brochures and have reduced the number of chairs in order to ensure that there is adequate space for social distancing. We have removed our coffee bar and water cooler and added an area with sterilization solutions.
- Please be responsible with the health and safety of others and advise us
  of any changes in your symptoms from the time you first filled out the
  questionnaire through the time you present to the office.
- Please use the restroom prior to entering our office to prevent the need for excess disinfection of surfaces as sanitizing products are scarce and we must all conserve.
- We will take your temperature, review answers from our questionnaire, and then assist you with hand sanitizing solution. We will then escort you to the treatment room to limit your time in the common areas.
- Please note that all common areas will be wiped down repeatedly before and following each patient encounter.

# Patient Protocols in Treatment Rooms

- Patients will be escorted to treatment rooms after all disinfecting and cleaning protocols have been completed. Please note that you may be asked to wait while the next area is being prepared.
- Devices will be used when possible during treatment to reduce the amount of aerosol that is produced. Your tooth/teeth will also be disinfected prior to being prepped with the handpiece to reduce the amount of contaminated aerosol produced.
- Both high speed and low speed suction shall be used whenever possible to assist in the reduction of aerosols.
- Disposable materials are discarded immediately.
- Non-disposable equipment is disinfected then sterilized appropriately immediately following use.
- Patients should wash hands prior to leaving the treatment room and/or use hand sanitizer upon departing from the treatment room and again prior to leaving the office.



### Additional Information



- Our goal is to provide our patients with exceptional, quality dental care
  using the latest technology with the most attentive and accommodating
  customer service while exceeding all safety and health protocols available
  to us.
- As information changes daily, we are committed to keeping up with all protocol changes and making any appropriate modifications required to our protocols.
- Our team strictly adheres to these health and safety practices and compliance with these protocols and any future changes is mandatory.





Vadhi Ohio Family Dental loves and appreciate our patients. Our safety and yours is of the utmost importance! Although we feel that our office is one of the safest environments, we are confident that our upgrades in equipment, protocols, and procedures shows our commitment to mitigating the risk of transmitting diseases to our patients, team, and families. We are in this together. We know that you will also do your part. We will do our best to complete procedures the same day when possible. To ensure your visit runs on time and smoothly, please complete all relevant data requests prior to arriving through our online forms.

We will continue to do everything possible and reasonable to ensure the most comfortable environment while upholding the strictest of safety precautions.