

To all of our Big Sky Dental Clinic patients, we want to take a minute to address what is on everyone's mind.

We believe it is our role and responsibility during this time to prioritize two things: the health and well-being of our patients and team while also playing a constructive role in supporting local health officials and government leaders as they work to contain the virus. Through that lens we will continue to make decisions with vigilance and courage informed by the latest science based information.

We wanted to let you personally know the actions we are taking to help prevent the spread of the virus, and the health and well-being of our patient and team.

In our office we have always used universal precautions, which include consistent hand washing and the use of hand sanitizer when un gloving and in between patients.

We have increased the use of sanitizer on all contact surfaces, especially highly touched areas. If you are experiencing a fever, flu like symptoms, and/or a cough please do not come into the office. Same goes for our team members, if we are not feeling well we will be staying home as well. Call us to reschedule the appointment for a future date; we will have some flexibility to work with you through this time. The office number is 406-883-5544.

- We cannot provide you masks for personal use. There is a shortage at this point in the US. So to protect our team from aerosols during treatment, our first priority on masks is keeping our team protected

Please alert us if you have been traveling or in an area where they are experiencing symptoms or have been exposed to COVID-19.

Please, please, please, remember that individual immune competence is always the rule when it comes to infectious disease processes. While necessary precautions are in order, common sense should always prevail regarding methods to do so. While not intended to be a comprehensive list, keep in mind the following:

- Proper hand washing, hand sanitizing, cough/sneeze into arm (not hand), staying away from compromised or potentially immunologically compromised individuals if you think you may be ill - especially if you are symptomatic (cough, sneeze, fever).
- Getting ample sleep and rest, and drinking ample amounts of water (for many, this means much more than they are used to drinking) and generally staying well-nourished.

As always we are here for all of our patients, as you are family to us. Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions or needs!

Sincerely,

Dr. Clave and the Big Sky Dental Clinic team