

After Editing (original version sent to me is below):

Dear Patients,

As you know we are still in the middle of the first wave of the COVID-19 virus. Although there was a dip in the curve, testing has increased, and social distancing has decreased creating a new spike. We have received phone calls of concern regarding routine dental visits. In order to safeguard the health of our patients and to maintain the health of our patient's teeth and gums, we are following strict guidelines.

The entire team at Great Boca Smiles remains committed to adhering to protocols to prevent transmission of COVID-19 and all other pathogens that we face daily. To date no one working in the office has tested positive or has any symptoms. Operating in our medical building provides certain protections, unlike a shopping center, for multiple reasons: the other offices in the building are properly scheduling patients in a way that has greatly reduced patient traffic; our building has fresh air constantly pumped into the entire facility; and the building doors open automatically. Our office has UV lights in the air-conditioning system as well as HEPA filters. We have the proper PPE and deeply sanitize the office in between patients. Upon entry all patients fill out questionnaires, have their temperatures checked, and hands are washed and rinsed with a hydrogen peroxide rinse. Our team wears masks at all times in the office. Outside of office hours, our staff wears masks in public and maintains social distance. We are diligent about protecting ourselves in order to protect our patients.

It is important that you maintain care of your teeth. Alarmingly we are seeing a spike in gum disease, cavities and jaw pain. Patients who have periodontal disease and tooth infections are two to three times more likely to suffer a heart attack or stroke. It is also known that gum disease destroys gum tissue and is linked to dementia and Alzheimer's disease. Diabetic patients are more likely to develop periodontal disease, which can increase blood sugar and diabetic complications. I cannot emphasize enough the significance of proper oral care.

Your health and wellness are our primary concern. Please know that we are doing everything we can to keep you safe. If you have any questions or concerns please call our office at (###)###-####.

We look forward to seeing all of our patients in the coming months.

Yours in good health,

Alan Markowitz, DMD
Great Boca Smiles

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Dear Patients,

As you know we are still in the middle of the first wave of the covid virus. Although there was a dip in the curve, testing has increased, and social distancing has decreased creating a new spike. We have received phone calls of concern regarding routine dental visits. In order to safeguard the health of our patients and to maintain the health of our patient's teeth and gums we are following strict guidelines.

Alarmingly we are seeing a spike in gum disease, cavities and jaw pain. In the past, I have discussed the importance of oral health. It is a medical fact that patients who have periodontal disease, and tooth

infections are two to three times more likely to suffer a heart attack or stroke. It is also known that gum disease caused by the bacteria Porphyromonas gingivalis not only destroys gum tissue in the mouth it is linked to dementia as well as Alzheimer's disease. Diabetic patients are more likely to develop periodontal disease, which in turn can increase blood sugar and diabetic complications. People with diabetes are more likely to have periodontal disease than people that do not because they are more susceptible to infections.

The entire team at Great Boca Smiles remains committed to adhering to strict protocols in order to prevent transmission of Covid 19 and all other pathogens that we face daily. My team has agreed to remain diligent outside of the office, wearing masks in public and maintaining social distance. To date no one working in the office has tested positive or has any symptoms. Operating in a medical building is advantageous, unlike a shopping center, the other offices in the building are properly scheduling patients in a way that has greatly reduced patient traffic. Our building has fresh air constantly pumped into the entire building, the building doors open automatically, and our office has UV lights in the Air conditioning system as well as HEPA filters. We have the proper PPE and deeply sanitize the office in between patients. Upon entry all patients fill out questionnaires, have their temperatures checked, hands are washed, and swish with a hydrogen peroxide rinse. Our staff members wear their masks at all times in the office.

We are looking forward to seeing all of our patients in the coming months.

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Alan Markowitz, DMD

Great Boca Smiles.