



Hello everyone,

I hope this finds you and your loved ones in good health. I wanted to take a moment to reach out to our patient community and give you an update on what's been happening at Encinitas Dental Group (EDG) since we suspended all non-urgent dental care on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On May 7<sup>th</sup>, Californian dentists received specific guidance from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), in conjunction with the CDC and CDA, regarding the return to regular dental operations. My team and I have spent this week finalizing preparations and new protocol for our reopening Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> 2020.

The dental profession already had strict infection control guidelines in place, and has been doing for many years what other industries and businesses are now adopting in response to COVID-19. Encinitas Dental Group has followed best practice guidance from the CDC, CDA, ADA and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and we continue to refer to these agencies for updated recommendations to ensure the health and safety of our patients and staff.

In response to COVID-19 we will be returning to operations with additional measures in place to help maintain the health and safety of our patients and staff:

- Prescreening of patients via phone a few days before appointment, and upon arrival to EDG. Any patient with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19, or suspected COVID-19, will be rescheduled
- Face coverings to be worn by everyone entering EDG
- EDG employees will wear masks at all times
- Touchless temperature checks, prior to entering EDG, for staff and patients (staff subject to twice daily checks)
- Hand sanitizer to be used upon entering EDG, and is available throughout your visit
- Regular disinfecting of frequently touched surfaces throughout the day, and at close of business
- Credit card machine and clipboards will be disinfected between each use
- Separate check-in and check-out counters
- Communal items (magazines and reading materials) removed from reception area as they cannot be adequately disinfected
- Fewer patient appointments to reduce number of people in EDG facility at one time
- Upgraded Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and additional equipment for clinical staff.

Thank you for being our patient, I look forward to seeing you soon. I am happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the steps we are taking to keep you, and every patient, safe in our practice.

Sincerely, Dr John C. Davis