



Lake Forest Dental Associates

# newsbites

Spring 2020

## Doctor's Note

Our global community has been through a lot over the last few months, and we hope this letter finds you and your family in good health.

Your team at Lake Forest Dental Associates have received calls as many of you are looking forward to resuming normal habits, including routine dental visits to keep on track for continued dental wellness. We are here for you. While many things have changed, one thing has remained the same: our commitment to your health and well-being.

Infection control has always been a top priority for our practice. Our infection control processes are made so that when you receive care, it is both safe and with vigilance. Our team's commitment to this is now more important than ever, so we want to tell you about the new procedures we have developed to help keep everyone safe.

Our office follows infection control recommendations made by the American Dental Association (ADA), the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). We follow the activities of these agencies so that we are up to date on any new rulings or guidance that may be issued, and to ensure that our infection control procedures are current and adhere to each agencies' recommendations.

Everyone at Lake Forest Dental Associates is fully committed to ensuring the health and well-being of our patients. We have been working tirelessly



to prepare for the new norm and you will see some changes when it is time for your next appointment. Included in this issue of News Bites we have included some of the steps we are implementing to help protect our patients and staff.

We have always worked to maintain the highest level of care for our patients and these changes reflect this continued commitment. We are happy to answer any questions you may have about the steps we are taking to keep you, and every patient, safe in our practice.

Thank you for being part of our Lake Forest Dental Associates Family. We value your trust, loyalty and look forward to welcoming back all our patients, neighbors, and friends.

Truly,

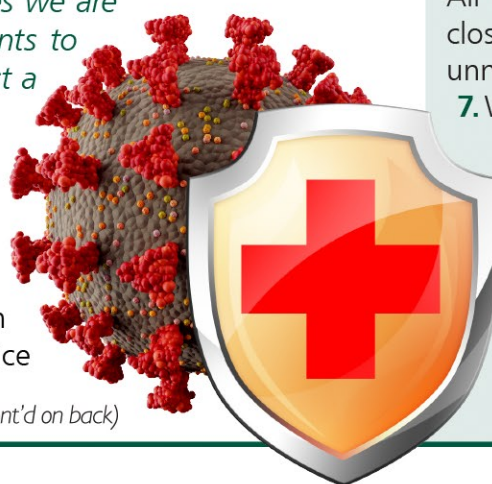
*Drs. Laniel Razdolsky & Monika Tincher*

## Office Visit Procedure Changes

*In addition to sterilization of air, surface and personal protective equipment, at Lake Forest Dental Associates we are changing how we see and schedule patients to better shield you from exposure. Here is just a few of the changes you may expect when you come for your next visit.*

- The CDC advises patients MUST maintain 2 meters distance from another. To accomplish this, our schedules have been adapted so that only the minimum number of patients are present in the office at all times.

(cont'd on back)



## NEW HYGIENE PROTOCOLS

### *For a safer dental visit*

*To better protect our patients and families, here's how we are adapting in response to the increased biological hazard associated with COVID-19.*

1. We installed an **Ionizer iWave Purifier**. This non-chemical, ultra-low energy plasma technology uses bi-polar ionization to actively treat air quality from bacteria and viruses.
2. We disinfect air/surfaces using with **hospital-grade, hypochlorous acid disinfectant**. HOCl kills 99.9% germs, but is non-toxic and 100% safe. Additionally, we are fogging all open areas against airborne contaminants each morning/night.
3. All operatories have **WellAir Novaerus air dis-infection units** with plasma technology to kill airborne viruses and reduce a common surrogate for COVID-19 by 99.99%!
4. Surgical masks will be worn at all times in the clinic by all staff members. In addition, staff members in direct contact with patients will also wear a KN95 surgical mask, facial shield, goggles, cap, gown and gloves at all times. All protective gear is sterilized after each patient interaction and renewed every 4 hours.
5. We are observing meticulous hand disinfection protocols before and after every contact with a patient using a skin disinfectant solution with strict adherence to mandatory techniques.
6. All door handles in the clinic will be wiped and disinfected after every patient contact, and at a minimum of every two hours. All doors not required to be kept closed will remain open to prevent unnecessary surface contact.

7. We have removed all non-essential items and stored all non-clinical items: i.e. magazines, dental display models, flyers, brochures, etc.

8. All package deliveries from carriers or suppliers will be accepted outside and sanitized with HOCl once on premises.



# Office Visit Procedure Changes

- Patients and parents should note that our brushing area is closed. However, patients will be required to rinse with a hydrogen peroxide solution upon being seated.
- Office Entry Restricted: Only patients may enter the office for appointment. All companions are requested to assist patients to the front door and hand-off to the Technician then wait outside. No persons are allowed in the operatory or reception unless accompanying a young child or handicapped adult.
- There is no front desk check-in. Patients are asked to phone in or text when they arrive to the parking lot. If too many patients come to the office at the same time they MUST wait outside until called in by cellphone. *(Timeslots are kept open for emergencies so that there is no extra waiting time for these cases.)*
- Patients with preexisting conditions predisposing them to a severe course of COVID-19 are sent directly to the treating room to avoid contact with other patients.
- Patients / Guardians are required to sign a consent form and Health Questionnaire. We have designated one staff member to assist patients in this process.
- Upon entry, patients are instructed to please observe the stop line in front of the reception desk (2 meters) and reminded to maintain this safe distance at all times.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided for patient's use upon entering the office.
- In addition, to recording temperatures all patients are screened prior to their visit. Screening must be documented for the protection of all patients. Only upon confirmation a patient is healthy can treatment proceed, otherwise the appointment must be rescheduled.

*We appreciate your understanding in the necessity of these measures for the protection of all our patients. If you have any questions, we're here to help.*



## 3 Ways We're Protecting You!

#1

**Ionizer iWave Purifier:** An in-line, HVAC, non-chemical, ultra-low energy plasma technology air purifier that uses bi-polar ionization generation to actively treat our clinic's air quality. This device emits positive and negative ions, creating a plasma region that purifies air, killing mold, bacteria and viruses in the coil and occupied space.

*iWave*

#2

**Hypochlorous Disinfectant:** Sterilization of each operatory and common areas with hospital-grade hypochlorous acid disinfectant after each patient and/or a minimum of every 90 min. HOCl kills 99.9% germs, and yet is non-toxic and 100% safe. Additionally, we are fogging all open areas against airborne contaminants twice daily (morning and evening).

#3

**Operatory Plasma Air Disinfection:** We installed WellAir Novaerus air dis-infection units with plasma technology to kill airborne viruses 24/7. These units are independently tested and shown to reduce a common surrogate for COVID-19 by 99.99%!



Lake Forest



Dental Associates