

UTTAR PRADESH DENTAL COUNCIL

5, Sarvapally, Mall Avenue Road, Lucknow-226 001
Phone : 0522-2238846, 2236600 Fax : 0522-2237800



Ref. No. ...180/20

Date ..16/03/2020

To

All Dentists

Uttar Pradesh

Dear Dentists,

Sub: Message to the Dentists practicing in Uttar Pradesh in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic

The Uttar Pradesh State Dental Council requests you to reschedule and immediately suspend all non-essential and elective dental procedures as dentists are **high risk categories** for transmitting COVID-19.

Kindly follow strict safety protocols and preventive measures in the waiting area and operatory for patients and self.

Please support the Government and help mankind to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Sudhir Kapoor
16/3/2020

Dr.Sudhir Kapoor

President

Uttar Pradesh State Dental Council

Lucknow

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DENTAL OFFICE SAFETY PROTOCOLS UPDATE

“Control of what comes into the office allows us to control what goes out.”

**Minimize overlapping of patients to reduce number of people in the office at the same time.
Request all your patients not bring any friends/family members to appointments.**

No handshaking.

Most important thing is to reassure our patients that their health and our health is what is of paramount importance.

1. GREETING PROTOCOL

- a. Initially, Patients enter the office and are asked to take a seat.
- b. They are greeted by one of our team, who checks their temperature. A contact free thermometer is preferred.
- c. If elevated, send them home immediately and Note Patient's Chart, if not, they are walked directly to their operatory, **UNLESS THEY HAVE PAIN** (remember elevated temperature can occur when a patient has some kind of bacterial infection).
- d. If seated in the reception, the patient must be asked to take a disinfectant wipe and wipe their seat down in the waiting room when they are taken back to the operatory. e. Sign on Inner Door that asks them not to enter.

g. WHEN/ IF we get to the NEXT THREAT LEVEL Patients are asked to text/call when they arrive and wait outside the office, in their cars, or outside.

2. OPERATORY PROTOCOL

- a. Limited items on counters
 - i. **Everything** must be inside drawers or Cabinets
 - ii. Keyboard, mouse put away
 - iii. Only thing out, should be the procedure instruments on a bagged tray.
- b. Universal precautions for remainder of operatory setup
- c. When a patient arrives, have them place their items in a designated place.
- d. Have Patient **wash hands with soap and water or hand sanitizer**
- e. Have patient sit and then swish **CHLORHEXIDINE** for 60 seconds.
 - i. No spitting into sink, only into the saliva ejector.
 - ii. Continue with Procedures.
- f. Once completed procedure, walkout completed procedures for Front desk.
- g. Initiate **Touchless Payments - Text To Pay** for any Balances before appointment or post appointment.

- h. Try to resist cash payments.
- i. If receive Cash, use GLOVES – and place cash in ZIPLOCK BAG.
- j. Patient is walked out all the way our of office and advised not to touch anything.

3. HYGIENE PROTOCOL

- a. Limit Ultrasonic/ Cavitron usage.
- b. Hand Scale Patients.
- c. If you absolutely need to use ultrasonic, then HVE tip has to be used
- d. Work together if you need an assistant for suction.
- e. Always wear safety glasses. The eyes are an open wound, so it is mandatory to protect them. Use of visors instead of glasses increases protection and avoids splashing your face mask (even though this must still be changed).
- f. Use appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (clothing, cap, glasses, plastic apron and special thick gloves over latex gloves).
- g. Immerse instruments in disinfectant immediately after use. Check that the disinfectant product meets all requirements of an effective disinfectant and respect concentrations, time and temperature recommended by the manufacturer.

4. DOCTOR PROTOCOL

- a. Proper Isolation protocols **MUST** be followed for **EVERY** procedure that requires a handpiece.
- b. Decrease Air and Water flow on units.
- c. Assistants must focus on evacuation and not instrumentation.
 - i. Usage of more dry shields and cotton rolls and 2x2.
- d. ELECTIVE procedures (Implant placements, Invisalign, cosmetic procedures, whitening etc. should be rescheduled for a later time.
- e. Impressions : take impressions with VPS (Vinyl PolySiloxane) – sterilize and place in Bag.
- f. Use a rubber dam to avoid the water nebulised from the turbine mixing with the saliva of the patient.

5. POST PATIENT PROTOCOLS

- a. Thoroughly clean the dental chair with a surface disinfectant after removing the protective films. Always perform these steps in the same order. Bleach is used for counter tops and furniture, as well as for cleaning floors.
- b. Always start with the cleanest equipment and progress to the most contaminated.

6. FRONT DESK PROTOCOL

- a. Use Gloves while on your computers and phones.
- b. Have Patients fill out necessary paperwork/info online before they come in.
- c. Patients must Hand Sanitize before use

- d. Ventilate the room whenever possible, including the waiting room.


16/3/2020

Dr Sudhir Kapoor
President
UP State Dental Council