

With the recent news and spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), we know our patients have questions. As dedicated healthcare professionals, we want you to know that we are committed to the health and safety of our patients and staff. Our practice strictly adheres to and exceeds the standards for infection control by wearing personal protective gear, using hospital-grade disinfectants, practicing the latest sterilization protocols, utilizing single-use disposable materials, and more. Every effort we have in place is to ensure the safety of our patients and staff.

The American Dental Association released a recommendation on 3/16/2020 to all practitioners to suspend all elective treatment for the next three weeks. The Texas Dental Association followed with a statement that it was up to the individual practice to make an informed decision about continuing to provide care based on all available information.

We here at Hill & Ioppolo Oral and Facial Surgery of Lubbock want to make sure our patients are completely informed with the most updated information regarding this pandemic. Symptoms of coronavirus are reported as cold or flu-like, with varying degrees of severity.

While we do not know everything about this virus to date, individuals who are elderly and/or immunocompromised appear to be the most at risk for a severe infection. To ensure your health and safety, and the health and safety of everyone at our practice, we will reschedule your appointment if you or a member of your household has a cough, fever, and/or flu-like symptoms.

In addition, we will reschedule your appointment if you have traveled to any areas within the past 14 days that are at high risk for contracting the coronavirus, or if you as an individual are considered high-risk due to having a compromised immune system or other medical diagnosis.

We understand the term *elective* is subjective by its very nature. There are many reasons a patient would pursue treatment during these trying times. By signing this waiver, you acknowledge that all the relevant information regarding your current treatment has been presented to you and that you deem the proposed treatment, \_\_\_\_\_, as necessary and not elective in nature. You further affirm that you and the persons you have been in contact with over the last 2 weeks do not have any of the symptoms mentioned above and have not traveled to high-risk areas.