

Keeping Patients Safe

As Westchester begins the slow and careful process of emerging from the COVID-19 crisis and reopening dental and medical offices, keeping patients and staff safe is a top priority. To ensure the safety within the office, Advanced Dentistry of Westchester is implementing changes to almost every aspect of its practice. The practice is determined to go well beyond the recommendations of the American Dental Association, the CDC, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. As Kenneth Magid, DDS, FICD, explains, “We are making this extraordinary effort because we have always believed our patients deserve not simply what is required, but the very best in safety and treatment.”

Many changes the Advanced Dentistry practice has implemented involve a significant investment in technology and equipment to remove and treat the aerosols created during procedures and by the continual scrubbing of the office air to maintain “surgically clean air.” Much of the new equipment was not previously necessary or available for the dental office and has been created or modified in response to the highly contagious coronavirus. Advanced Dentistry also plans to incorporate testing for the virus as testing becomes faster and more available.

TRAINING TEAM MEMBERS

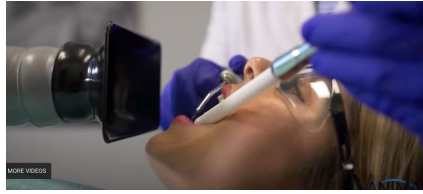
According to Dr. Magid, all team members in the practice are receiving training in the additional procedures that have become necessary to ensure patient safety. Some of those steps include:

- Evaluating each team member when they arrive at the office, including completing a health questionnaire — each team member takes their temperature and pulse oxygen level, with the results documented daily, and anyone exhibiting symptoms or exposure will be sent home.
- Incorporating a revised dress code for team members — clinical team members will change into scrubs upon arrival and don personal protective equipment (PPE), including disposable treatment gowns, gloves, masks, and while treating patients, the use of face shields. A splash shield has been added to the front desk to preserve the social isolation of team members and patients.

PATIENT ARRIVAL AND SCHEDULING

Patients will also notice differences in the way they are scheduled and the procedures when they arrive at the office.

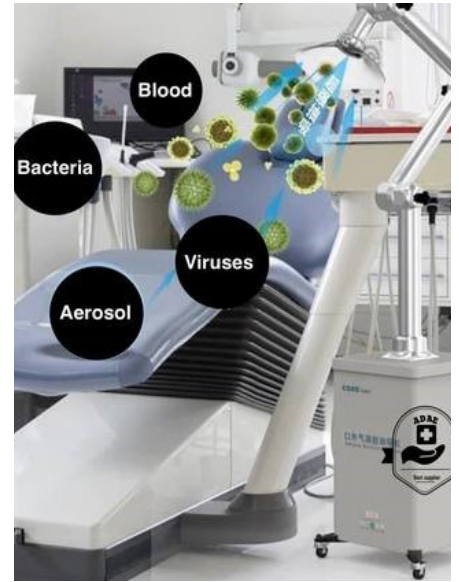
- At the time of their appointment, every patient will respond to a questionnaire that evaluates their possible exposure to COVID-19.



Close-up of the extra-oral suction that removes and disinfects 99.9% of the aerosol created by dental procedures.



Surgically Clean Air is created by equipment that continually scrubs the air in each area.



The extra-oral suction equipment removes and disinfects the aerosol created by dental procedures.

The practice’s reception room will not be used. Instead, patients will wait in their cars in the parking lot until they are called on their cell phone. Before proceeding directly to the treatment room, each patient will have their temperature and pulse oxygen level taken. Patients will be provided with hand sanitizer and asked to wear masks or face coverings at all times while not being treated.

- To minimize the possibility of exposure to COVID-19, the practice is revising the daily patient schedule and reserving the first treatment times of the day for patients over 60 or immunocompromised. Additional time is being added to each appointment to avoid interaction among patients and for the complete sanitizing of treatment rooms and other areas.

TREATMENTS

To minimize patients’ exposure, treatments will also be completed in as few visits as possible.

- Building on its ongoing effort to minimize the impact treatments have on patients’ lives and schedules, the practice will continue to use “no shot” “no drill” lasers for many cavities, CAD-CAM single-visit crowns, and CAD computer-guided implants that have helped keep treatment visits to a minimum.
- During treatment, a new extra oral suction will effectively remove and disinfect the aerosol created by our instruments and every area is equipped with devices that continually scrub and disinfect the air in the room.

BENEFIT TO PATIENTS

From Dr. Magid’s perspective, going to extraordinary lengths is par for the course. “As our patients know, our practice is NOT your typical dental office and our response to this global pandemic will be just as extraordinary,” he says. “Every aspect of our dental treatment will continue to combine caring attention to every detail with the most advanced technology to provide services that are safe, comfortable, and effective.”

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of Westchester** P.L.L.C.

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