



29<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear all,

Once again, thank you for your messages and your feedback.

We have now reached all registered patients at Brookview Dental Care by email, SMS message or letter to ensure that everyone is fully aware of the current situation.

Further to our previous correspondence, this is a short letter to provide you with further updates:

- I am sure you've heard the phrase PPE (Personal, Protective Equipment) in the News recently as it has been a hot topic. Dental practices are like mini hospitals and are legislated heavily. PPE is a large part of this legislation and we are currently waiting to hear how PPE in Dentistry will change; we haven't received any absolute guidance as yet. One issue we have in dental practices is how much PPE we use. PPE needs to be changed regularly, and different levels of PPE need to be worn for different tasks. We do generate a lot of environmental waste and there have been research projects looking at how we can lessen the waste; however, currently with the COVID-19 outbreak the above is proving far more challenging. We are unable at present to order any PPE as it is being directed to NHS hospitals, urgent dental care centres, social care providers and others who are supporting the running of these organisations.
- We have invested in two professional air cleaning mobile units (IQAir HealthPro 250) in Surgeries 1 and 2. These products are for dental environments and will help to implement infection prevention measures by further controlling airborne bacteria, viruses and drill aerosols with advanced multistage filtration.
- We were informed today that in Nottinghamshire over 200 patients have been referred to the local urgent dental care centres; one of our patients has been referred successfully. We have also been informed that referrals for minor oral surgery cases and orthodontic emergencies are expected to be available in the near future.
- We have been successful in our application to be involved in a research project which is based on Selective Caries Removal in Permanent Teeth. The project is of great interest to dentists, as Dental Caries is the most prevalent, preventable disease globally and can have serious health consequences, with a negative impact on quality of life and productivity. The project looks at two different techniques currently used in dentistry for caries removal, in order to ascertain which provides more clinical and cost effective results.

The telephone numbers for ringing in an emergency, or if you require advice, are still the same:

- **During office hours:** please ring **07533 765 841**.
- **Out of office hours:** please call the relevant number below:
  - Private patients should call 01845 469299
  - NHS patients should call 111

My best wishes to all of you, and I will continue to keep you informed of any developments.

Dr Niki Kitsiou

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