



**COVID-19 - UPDATE**  
**WEST SOMERVILLE DENTAL ASSOCIATES OPENING ON MAY 18, 2020**

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Per the Governor's announcement on April 27, 2020, West Somerville Dental is permitted to open on May 18, 2020. To ensure the safety of everyone, West Somerville Dental will adhere strictly to infection control protocols and PPE guidelines as outlined in the ADA Toolkit and CDC.

West Somerville Dental will be following the protocols listed below.

**GUIDELINES FOR PROVIDING DENTAL CARE DURING THE CURRENT COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

1. Every patient will be pre-screened for COVID-19 risk factors using a comprehensive questionnaire until accurate testing is available.
2. To reduce the number of in-person appointments, doctors are available to discuss patient concerns over the phone.
3. Appointments staggered to minimize patient-to-patient contact. To facilitate adequate distancing, we are limiting 3 patients per hour per dental care provider.
4. All offices are disinfected on a regular schedule throughout the day.
5. Patients should come alone for appointments (except where necessary for interpreters, guardians of minors, and others needing assistance).
6. Body temperature of every patient is recorded when they arrive for their appointment.
7. Patients reporting or exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms are advised to contact their primary care physician immediately and place in quarantine as appropriate.
8. Dentists will secure COVID-19 test reports where available for patients and staff.
9. All staff members have their temperatures taken upon arriving at work and a record is maintained at the dental offices.
10. Staff members who report or exhibit any COVID-19 symptoms should self-quarantine and contact their primary care physician immediately and follow their advice. If found to be positive, West Somerville Dental will follow the Massachusetts Department of Health protocol.
11. All dental personnel use appropriate PPE as dictated by the procedure performed, consistent with guidelines from the CDC and the American Dental Association, including masks, face shields, fluid-resistant gowns and hair cover if applicable.
12. High volume evacuators and isolation strategies are used to limit exposure to aerosols.
13. It is recommended that patients use a pre-procedure mouth rinse immediately before beginning a procedure.
14. All surfaces are disinfected between patients in accordance with the ADA guidelines.
15. Special care will be taken for patients with higher risk (pre-existing comorbidities) or immunocompromised individuals.
16. Coffee bars are closed. All magazines at the offices have been put away as well.