

NEW CORONAVIRUS ARRANGEMENTS

As directed by the Chief Dental Officer of England on Friday 20th March:

- Reduce routine check-ups by cancelling patients from vulnerable groups (see below)
- Try to avoid providing treatment that generate aerosols AGP (Aerosol Generating Procedure) i.e. using a fast handpiece or ultrasonic scaler to anyone.
- Not treat anyone with potential COVID symptoms, or have had contact with someone with potential COVID symptoms.
- Any patients that need urgent treatment that have COVID symptoms can access treatment by contacting england.southeastdental@nhs.net

Vulnerable groups:

This group includes those who are:

- aged 70 or older (regardless of medical conditions)
- those who are pregnant
- under 70 with an underlying health condition listed below (ie anyone instructed to get a flu jab as an adult each year on medical grounds):
 - chronic (long-term) respiratory diseases, such as [asthma](#), [chronic obstructive pulmonary disease \(COPD\)](#), emphysema or [bronchitis](#)
 - chronic heart disease, such as [heart failure](#)
 - [chronic kidney disease](#)
 - chronic liver disease, such as [hepatitis](#)
 - chronic neurological conditions, such as [Parkinson's disease](#), [motor neurone disease](#), [multiple sclerosis \(MS\)](#), a learning disability or cerebral palsy
 - [diabetes](#)
 - problems with your spleen – for example, [sickle cell](#) disease or if you have had your spleen removed
 - a weakened immune system as the result of conditions such as [HIV and AIDS](#), or medicines such as [steroid tablets](#) or [chemotherapy](#)
 - being seriously overweight (a BMI of 40 or above)
 - People who have received an organ transplant and remain on ongoing immunosuppression medication
 - People with cancer who are undergoing active chemotherapy or radiotherapy
 - People with cancers of the blood or bone marrow such as leukaemia who are at any stage of treatment
 - People with severe chest conditions such as cystic fibrosis or severe asthma (requiring hospital admissions or courses of steroid tablets)
 - People with severe diseases of body systems, such as severe kidney disease (dialysis)
- Colette intends:
- To be at work and see **our** patients.
- Decide with the patient whether to use an AGP – but many dental pains / problems require using a dental drill.
- Non-vulnerable patients can book routine procedures as they wish, for now.