

Coronavirus (COVID-19) -*Update: 5/4/20*

First and foremost, we ask that you review the following and consider rescheduling your appointment if any of the following precautions apply to you:

- If you have traveled out of the country within the last 14 days?
- If you have been exposed to someone who is suspected of having COVID-19?
- If you are over 60 years of age?
- If you are experiencing or have had any flu-like symptoms within the past 48 hours including:
fever cough shortness of breath runny nose diarrhea
- We have a notice posted on our office door advising patients not to enter if they are ill, were exposed to someone with the Coronavirus, or have recently traveled to one of the affected countries.
- We will be calling you before your appointment, as well as inquiring at check-in if you have any symptoms related to the Coronavirus. If so, we will reschedule your appointment and encourage you to go straight home and call your doctor immediately. If you have no symptoms but have had contact with someone who has, we will also ask you to reschedule your appointment for at least 14 days in the future.
- Upon arrival for your appointment, our office door remains locked to prevent any unauthorized entry. All patients are greeted by one of our staff members and given instructions on whether to wait in their vehicle or be permitted to enter office at which time they are asked by one of our staff members the above COVID-19 symptom checker questions.
- Upon clearing patients to enter, they are being asked to use hand sanitizer or wash hands before their appointment. We have proper hand washing signs posted at every sink and on front desk.
- Waiting room chairs are being removed to allow for the appropriate 6ft. between each chair. As a result of limited seating, any additional scheduled patients will be asked to wait in their car. You will then be called via cellphone when it is time to see the doctor.
- Only patients are allowed in the exam room. However, an exception will be made for patients who are minors or any patient requiring physical assistance of a family member. All other guests will be asked to wait in their car until the conclusion of the visit.
- Our staff has been instructed to adhere to a rigorous cleaning schedule to include commonly touched surfaces, desks, phones, door knobs, chairs, frames, etc. throughout the day to ensure a sterile environment. (We take these precautions very seriously and consider our office to be a safe and clean place to visit).
- Doctors and staff are instructed to wash hands with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer before and after each patient encounter. (The CDC recommends the use of alcohol-based hand sanitizers with greater than 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol as the preferred form of hand hygiene in health care settings, based upon greater access to hand sanitizer).
- We use disposable paper towels as opposed to air dryer machines or cloth towels at all sinks.
- We clean exam room/patient rooms with best disinfectant (best is diluted bleach solution or alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol.) in between each patient.
- We clean all equipment with best available disinfectant (best is diluted bleach solution or alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol).
- We installed a slit lamp "breath" shield/barrier in all exam rooms.
- We disinfect all frames before/after patient tries them on.
- We disinfect high-touch areas as much as possible (doorknobs, door handles, front desk, chairs, etc.).
- Staff uses one phone and computer and maintains social distancing between themselves. Should they need to change phones or computers, they disinfect them in between uses.
- We minimize use of front-desk pens. Use verbal communication as much as possible at a safe distance. Disinfect pens after each use by spraying with alcohol and allowing to air dry.

The safety of our patients and staff is of the utmost importance to us. Please continue to be diligent in your efforts to help stop the spread of germs during this time.

Please know that we are committed to putting your health and safety first. Our doctors and staff have an obligation to be available during uncertain times like these to provide services to our patients regarding any vision related emergency or injury. We will continue to do so until further notice. We are grateful to our patients for your continued trust in us for all your eyecare needs.