



PERIODONTAL  
Medicine

Surgical  
SPECIALISTS



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### To Our Valued Patients:

For nearly 40 years, our practice has been providing exceptional periodontal and dental implant care. Throughout the decades, we have accepted, risen to, helped lead and exceeded the challenges that have impacted our profession. This crisis is yet another test that we are planning and preparing to deal with. History has shown that a challenge is no match for the ingenuity and spirit of our team.

We want you to know that we are actively monitoring the COVID19 crisis and are preparing to make the changes necessary to keep you safe while undertaking periodontal, implant and oral surgery related care at the standards you have come to expect from us. Our message and our reaction to this crisis is first and foremost centered around safety. In fact, this began 5 years ago when our Oakbrook Terrace office was expanded and credentialed by the American Association for Ambulatory Health Care (aka AAAHC) as an Office Based Surgery center.

Today, we remain the only periodontal specialty practice in Illinois that carries this distinction. That means we self-imposed oversight, regulation, and third party credentialing (similar to hospitals) in an effort to ensure safety, infection control and informed consent standards exceed traditional dental policies. In today's environment, this also means that we will be changing work flow patterns as well as increasing our safety measures by adding air disinfection devices proven to kill the SARS-CoV-2 virus. The use of PPE, face shields, and n95 level masks are standard as will be additional measures, possibly including point-of-care testing (if and when available).

All of our equipment is vetted so that we have the best possible materials and equipment to treat patients and keep everyone safe. Please rest assured, we are exploring every possible avenue and making every precaution to ensure that our practice continues to set the standard for the periodontal profession. We are nimble and reacting to emerging research data by updating patient care policies so that our patients, staff, colleagues, and your periodontists, practice at the highest level in what will be the "new normal".

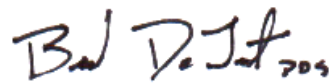
We have daily access to the American Dental Association, American Academy of Periodontology, Illinois State Dental Society and the Seattle Study Club network. This allows us to have a direct line to the very best and most trusted resources to help advise and guide us through these ever evolving times. As you have come to appreciate, we have a number of exceptional colleagues ranging from general dentists, prosthodontists, endodontists, orthodontists, oral surgeons, anesthesiologists and physicians in our network. Once we identify a patient problem and make a diagnosis, we have access to an interdisciplinary team whose expert input can be easily leveraged. This collaboration helps give us a direct line of sight for efficient and effective patient management.

Our first priority is to keep our staff and our patients safe. We are following every guideline from the CDC on down to ensure that we meet and exceed whatever is recommended to prevent the spread of this virus or contracting the virus from someone else while taking measures to ensure patients will be able to receive the periodontal care they need when we are allowed to practice beyond emergency care. Part of our weekly routine includes reviewing charts to be ready for you when we can re-open.

We want to remind everyone that we are in this together and together we will get through these difficult times. We have an incredible team that you can lean and depend upon. We are here to help, serve and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Lastly, be vigilant, be healthy and be safe. Please feel free to get in touch with us if we can be helpful or if you know someone who needs emergency care or has future non-emergency services that require our consult. Complimentary tele-dentistry services are available. Our contact information is noted below.

Sincerely,



George Mandelaris, DDS, MS, FICD  
Diplomate, American Board of Periodontology

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#### **DIRECT DOCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION (available 24/7 for teledentistry consults)**

Dr. Mandelaris

[GMandelaris@PeriodontalMedicine.org](mailto:GMandelaris@PeriodontalMedicine.org)

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Dr. DeGroot

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#### **OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION**

630.627.3930 (office phone)

Email: [Office@PeriodontalMedicine.org](mailto:Office@PeriodontalMedicine.org)

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Currently in-office emergency appointments only: Lincoln Park, Oakbrook Terrace, Park Ridge, IL

*\*Tele-dentistry consultations are available and are complimentary*

*\*\*We have in-office administration personnel on site every Monday and Thursday*

*\*\*\*Projected return to practice as of today: Dependent on governmental and Illinois state dental policy*