



Dearest Patients,

In light of CDC guidelines to reduce the spread of COVID-19 (SARS COV2, aka coronavirus) , as well as the national state of emergency declared on Friday, our AAAHC certified office has decided to suspend our operations and discontinue day to day clinical activities for the next 2 weeks. We have followed the example of many of our great medical institutions who are transitioning their clinics to telemedicine at this time. All elective procedures will be suspended & rescheduled, and consultations for emergency dental needs will be via telemedicine. We value you and your families' health above all.

Please know why we are prepared to battle this pandemic, and our expertise:

Dr. Abtin Shahriari has a Masters Degree in Public Health & Epidemiology from Emory University followed by years of experience working at the **WHO & CDC** working on H1N1 and polio eradication. His expertise comes at a much needed time. Dr. Payman is an internist, with a background in hospital medicine training from George Washington University in Washington D.C., as well as residency training at the **National Institutes of Health and NIAID** under the direction of **Dr. Anthony Fauci**, director of the NIH. She knows first-hand the requirements of positive protective equipment and patient isolation, and reduction of viral spread, which is so critical at a time like this.

Dr. Payman and Dr. Abtin are continuously working in collaboration with ICU, ER, and Infectious disease physicians around the entire United States, and in countries afflicted with this pandemic, to study the safest protocols for our office which will not jeopardize our patients, staff, or providers. We strive to be ahead of the curve when it comes to implementation of safety standards.

We emphasize placing safety, not profit, first.

We encourage you to call our emergency line if you are experiencing a dental emergency. Please do not hesitate to call us with questions or urgent needs as we will continue to field phone calls. Our number is **(404)433-8433**.

At this time, please know there are members of our community in need of assistance. Our office has initiated fundraising efforts for the **Atlanta Community Food Bank**, which is partnering with area schools to serve children who receive their only meals at school. We encourage you to look to your local community as well and see how you can help.

We are privileged to be your providers, and it is our honor to serve you and our community.

Sincerely,

The Greater Atlanta Oral Facial Surgery & Derm Clinic M.D. Teams