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Announcing the Forthcoming Opening of 2020 Dental Care Providing Safe and Personalised Dental Care in the Covid-19 World

As you are undoubtedly aware, due to the Covid-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak, the dental care system has been shut down nationally since April. The global pandemic caused all routine services to be stopped with just a very limited provision for specific emergencies. This has been challenging for patients and professionals alike, especially those people who have been unfortunate enough to find themselves in severe dental pain.

Despite the uncertainty surrounding Covid-19 and its impact on the provision of dental services the Government and regulators are clear that dental services cannot be paused indefinitely. So I am now very pleased to inform you that, following a Government announcement, there is some light at the end of the tunnel.

Covid-19 will inevitably mean a new 'normal' for the way we deliver safe and patient focused dentistry. Draft plans to allow a structured return of dental services post lockdown are currently being assessed by the regulatory bodies. These plans set out a phased return to a very different 'normal'. It is clear that, in the early weeks, provision will be limited and certain interventions will not be possible. Surgeries will quite rightly have to meet very stringent safety measures. This will mean a seismic shift for all practices not least in terms of the reduced number of patients it will be possible to see during a typical day.

Taking account of all this, I am excited to announce the opening of a brand new, state of the art facility at Rising Brook, Stafford. The Practice has been set up to meet the demands of this new 'normal', to enable patients to attend with confidence that the environment is safe from day one and moving forward into the future. We will provide an individualised and personal dental service to a strictly limited number of patients who choose to register with the Practice.

Our mission, for our patients, is to provide bespoke, individualised dental care and treatments in a safe, fully risk assessed environment that is Covid-19 compliant:

- ✓ There will be a strictly limited number of patients to allow us to meet social distancing requirements and provide an environment where every patient can feel safe
- ✓ Individuals and families will be welcome
- ✓ All appointments will be pre-arranged for registered patients only so there will be no sitting in a waiting room with other people
- ✓ There will be no direct access for the general public only registered patients
- ✓ Any emergency treatments will be provided in the shortest possible time frame consistent with guidelines
- ✓ Investment in the latest equipment, software and materials will enable us to make the whole visit to the Practice as contactless as possible outside the clinical area
- ✓ There will be no point of service payments within the Practice so no need to handle cash or cards.
- ✓ All appropriate PPE will be used according to guidelines and legislation



This effective and personalised dental service will be provided for our patients through an individual registration with Denplan. This is a monthly payment scheme tailored to your personal oral health needs.

Each patient will be individually assessed to ascertain their dental care requirements and advised on a suitable dental care plan. Because each dental care plan will be personalised for the individual it is difficult to provide an exact cost in this letter, however 85% of patients can expect to pay between £30-£40 per calendar month. This monthly fee will entitle the individual to receive care according to their general dental requirements.

It is inevitable that there will be a back log of patients requiring check-ups and treatments post lockdown and the new Covid-19 requirements will also severely reduce the number of patients that have previously been seen in a typical day. Pre-Covid-19 a dentist might typically have seen in excess of 40 patients per day. Post Covid-19 the same dentist will only be able to see 8-10 patients per day. So whilst back log demand will be high, capacity in general dentistry will be significantly reduced. To meet social distancing and other requirements it is likely that multi-dentist practices will experience the biggest changes with reductions in operational capacity and introduction of new working practices. This could lead to very long waiting times for their patients.

Our service delivery model aims to give our patients the peace of mind that individualised, personal and timely care can be accessed when it is needed from day one and into the future as we learn together to live in the new Covid-19 normal.

If you would like to find out more about the new Practice and how to register so that you can enjoy this peace of mind you can contact me on 07545 880204 or via our website. (Our website is currently under construction but please keep an eye out for updates)

Yours sincerely

Damian P Hopper BDS

Practice Owner/Dentist

For more information regarding issues surrounding the provision of dental care please visit

www.Denplan.co.uk

www.bda.org