March 25, 2020

To: Skokie Dentists, Orthodontists and Oral Care Professionals

Re: Skokie COVID-19 Response

Dear Doctor,

I am writing to let you know that as of today there have been 41 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the Village, ranging in age from 3 months to 88 years. The first confirmed case was identified on March 14. The Skokie Health Department has been working with schools, daycares, businesses, faith-based organizations and many other entities to encourage preventive measures such as social distancing, staying home when ill and frequent hand washing. You can learn about the number of cases in Skokie, and actions we have taken, on the Village website at: www.skokie.org

As you are likely aware, dentists are in one of the highest risk categories for transmission and contraction of the virus, with many routine dental procedures potentially transmitting the virus via aerosolization of fluids. I do hope that you are following the recommendations of the American Dental Association, Illinois State Dental Society and Illinois Department of Public Health, to postpone elective treatment and only perform emergency dental procedures, in order to limit the spread of COVID-19.

I am also writing to ask that you consider donating personal protective equipment such as masks, gowns and gloves to NorthShore University HealthSystem, for use by healthcare professionals who are treating ill patients. Here is a link to the NorthShore site for donating these much needed supplies: www.northshore.org/healthy-you/donations-from-the-community/

Thank you for your consideration, and I hope that you stay well during these difficult times. Please contact me if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

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