



March 16, 2020

## Dear Patients and Families:

As the facts and situation around COVID-19 (CoronaVirus) continues to evolve, we want you to know that we also have kept informed on the latest developments and recommendations from experts in the field and our governing bodies, to include the Centers of Disease Control, the American Dental Association, New York State Dental Association, New York State Department of Health, and the Erie County Department of Health.

As healthcare professionals and active members of the community, it is important we follow sound scientific, public health advice and play our role in slowing the spread of COVID-19 and “flattening the curve” in order to limit the infections and slow the spread of the virus. We are taking every precaution possible to minimize the spread of the virus.

It is because of this that many state dental societies recommend Dental Providers defer non-urgent dental care during this time. At Forcier Orthodontics, we will be rescheduling many of our routine appointments.

These appointments include those that require close contact for a prolonged period of time (placing braces and routine braces adjustments) and procedures that cause aerosols (brace removal and Invisalign attachment removal). As we have always been innovating, we will be instituting “virtual consults” on a video conferencing app for observation patients, retainer checks, appliance checks, and Invisalign aligner checks. We will also be able to provide additional aligners for our Invisalign patients. As always, we will certainly be here for any emergency treatment procedures that may arise during this time.

As small business owners and healthcare professionals, this was obviously a painstaking decision to make, but we would rather err on the side of caution to help ensure we keep our community safe. We understand that this will likely cause some inconveniences; however, it is being done out of an abundance of caution during these turbulent times.

In the meantime, PLEASE follow us on our Facebook ([facebook.com/ForcierOrtho](https://facebook.com/ForcierOrtho)) and Instagram ([instagram.com/forcier\\_ortho](https://instagram.com/forcier_ortho)) accounts as it is a much easier vehicle for us to keep everyone informed and to provide guidance without having to bog down your email inbox.

We are grateful to everyone who continues to put their trust in the Forcier Ortho team. Be safe, be well, and we hope to see your smiling faces back in our office as soon as possible! We will all get through this together!