The dental profession is highly regulated when it comes to cross-contamination and infection control. We at Westend Dental Clinic/ Dr Hussain always operate in accordance with all regulations with that respect. However, dentists, dental assistants and hygienists are very likely to be vulnerable to this particular virus, as we are exposed to a high quantity of aerosol and saliva particles. Due to its high infectiousness and the absolute need to slow down the spread of this virus, the responsible action is to limit the possible exposure to everyone.

Though this is an inconvenience for all involved, delaying Dental visits for a few weeks is unlikely to cause any significant harm, as long as you are brushing your teeth regularly, keeping ideal oral hygiene standards and following the instructions which are summarized below. Please follow these instructions to help minimize any potential problems:

\* Maintain excellent oral hygiene, including brushing after meals and flossing daily

\*Consider purchasing a fluoride rinse from your local pharmacy

\*Avoid excessive consumption of sweetened beverages or foods (candies)

\*For patients in fixed braces, avoid hard foods.

\*Consider changing your aligners every 2 weeks

If you have an emergency that requires our attention, such bleeding, trauma, severe pain, or infection, it would be ideal to send us an email on our website: www.westendental.ca<http://www.westendental.ca> or to leave us a voice message using the clinic phone number at 613 389-8785.

For some emergencies, we may arrange a video call to identify the problem(s) and advise you accordingly. In the meantime, the advice is to avoid or minimize emergency visits until the virus spread slows down.

We certainly understand that this closure may delay your treatment. However, we want you to rest assured that we will do our utmost to complete your treatment as expeditiously as possible, as soon as we are able to resume normal operations.

Ultimately, in the face of this global pandemic, it is each and everyone’s responsibility to help stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this matter.

Your Westend Dental team,

Dr. Tariq Hussain