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# COVID-19 Communication

25th March 2020

Tindale Dental Centre advises that it has not been affected by any shortage of face masks. We have an ample supply of health and safety supplies and our practice is operating normally.

Infection control is and has always been the highest priority and focus at Tindale Dental Centre. Our practice meets the National Safety and Quality Health Services Standards that apply to dentistry. The NSQHS Standards were developed by the Commission in collaboration with the Australian Government, States and Territories, the private sector, clinical experts, patients and carers.

The primary aims of the NSQHS Standards are to protect the public from harm and to improve the quality of health care. They provide a quality assurance mechanism that tests whether relevant systems are in place to ensure that expected standards of safety and quality are met.

Tindale Dental Centre's compliance with the NSQHS Standards for Private Dental Practices has been assessed and Accredited by Quality Innovation Performance (QIP), an accrediting agency approved by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (Commission), based on a Private Dental Practice Accreditation Program developed by QIP and the Australian Dental Association.

Private Dental Practice Accreditation reassures patients and consumers that our dental practice is adhering to industry regulations and guidelines and that it is committed to patient safety and quality care.

We concur with Australia's health authorities that the COVID-19 outbreak needs to be addressed with care and attention by every member of society. In addition to its normal operating procedures, Tindale Dental Centre is implementing various specific COVID-19 risk management measures including:

- Requiring dentists or staff suffering from any illness to stay at home (per existing policy);
- All staff holiday's requiring international travel have been postponed.
- Minimising patient waiting time in our waiting rooms by using our patient scheduling systems;
- Asking patients to self-identify if they have recently travelled overseas, have been in contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 or are unwell.

We at Tindale Dental Centre are committed to minimising the impacts of COVID-19 and providing a rewarding and safe environment for all staff members and personnel associated with the practice, as well as all our patients and the greater community.