



Dear Valued Patients:

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Internal Medicine Associates of Texas established important protocols to care for patients with infectious diseases and ensure the safety of staff and visitors. As your safety and the safety of our team is top priority, I want to assure you that those processes will not change with Gov. Abbott's lifting of the state mask mandate, which takes effect March 10th.

The governor's order does not preclude establishments from requiring hygiene measures. To assure a safe care environment, all Internal Medicine Associates of Texas employees will continue to practice proven tactics for controlling the spread of COVID-19, including universal masking and screening of all staff and visitors, as this has been our policy for months, and we have found this to be effective in minimizing the spread of Coronavirus. Visitors who refuse to wear a mask are encouraged to use virtual technology (TeleVisits) when scheduling appointments with our practice.

Science shows that community spread of this virus could increase the risk of mutations, posing potentially new and dangerous challenges. Wearing a mask can help slow community spread.

While the vaccine rollout is promising, to date only a small fraction of our community is vaccinated, and there is still much work to be done. We urge everyone to stay vigilant in protecting their own health as well as the health of family members, healthcare providers and our community by practicing proven tactics, including wearing a mask, frequent hand washing, maintaining social distancing and staying home when sick.

We appreciate your cooperation in keeping our community safe.

Sincerely,

Internal Medicine Associates of Texas