

[View in browser](#)

Please read below for an important message from your doctors.

---

"Everything we do before a pandemic will seem alarmist. Everything we do after a pandemic will seem inadequate. This is the dilemma we face, but it should not stop us from doing what we can to prepare." - Michael Leavitt, former Secretary of the US Department of Health and Human Services

The virus continues to spread throughout the US. There are now nearly 3,500 cases, up from 2,400 on Friday. The CDC is recommending avoiding all non-essential travel. They are also recommending that people over 65 years of age stay at home and avoid leaving except for vital tasks like getting groceries, seeing the doctor if necessary, or going to the pharmacy. Please know that COVID-19 can spread before people show signs of being ill. To prevent the rapid spread of this virus in our community, with the potential to outstrip our medical resources, we recommend for *everyone* to stay at home as much as possible. This [article](#) demonstrates how social distancing and other interventions could help slow down the spread of infection. Consider having groceries delivered, using carry out instead of dining in and avoiding any gatherings. Click [here](#) for a great graphic on what social distancing would mean.

In addition, Missouri Baptist Medical Center has asked us to cancel all routine physicals and office visits. Instead, we would like to change as many visits as possible to virtual visits, either on the phone or via videoconferencing. Of course, sick visits or other issues that are not amenable to virtual care could still be seen in our office. This will allow us to continue to help you with your medical concerns while limiting your exposure to other people.

To further minimize risk to healthy patients and staff, we will be handling all patients with fever and dry cough in a drive-through clinic at our office. If you have these symptoms, please call the office, and we will give you complete instructions on how to proceed.

With all the frenzy surrounding the virus, many physician offices, including ours, have found it difficult to stock the necessary personal protective equipment. If you have access to N-95 masks that you are not using, we ask you to please let us know.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation with all of this! We all need to work together to help prevent the spread of this virus and keep each other safe.

To learn why you received this and how to remove yourself from the list, see [Privacy Policy](#)

[Review / edit information about you](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

Generated by  [Learn more](#)