

## COVID-19 LOCKDOWN EXTENSION (9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020 UPDATE)

***Dear patients and our wider network of health professionals,***

In line with the announcement made by the Victorian Government on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2020, the Stage 4 COVID-19 Restrictions for Metropolitan Melbourne have been extended for a further 2 weeks.

The Australian Dental Association has been advocating to ease the mandated restrictions for dental practices within Metropolitan Melbourne, considering there are no cases of transmission of COVID-19 in the dental setting, and that the dental profession has been extremely proactive in minimizing the risks, along with the adverse impact the restrictions are having on patient health and well-being. At this stage, the government remains concerned that relaxing the restrictions will increase the movement of people, subsequently the risk of further spread of the virus.

The mandate has also prohibited the use of dental equipment that generate aerosols, and has specifically named *hard tissue lasers* as one of them, in which our *Waterlase laser* falls under. Aerosols are liquid droplets dispersed in the air, which may carry and increase the spread of the virus. For this reason, we are unable to even help our patients (including babies) with tethered oral tissues (tongue ties, lip ties, buccal ties). Although we understand the government's intention, we are still completely devastated and feel absolutely helpless!

**Hence, with an even heavier heart, Myofocus Melbourne will continue to remain closed temporarily, until 27<sup>th</sup> September 2020, pending government's advice.**

Our positions are as follow:

- *Re-opening has now been planned for Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> September 2020, unless the government indicates otherwise.*
- *Earlier re-opening will be immediately implemented should the government change its stance.*
- *Our telephone lines will be attended to every Monday and every Thursday, between 9am and 1pm, for the time being.*
- *The best way of communication is via email: [info@myofocus.com.au](mailto:info@myofocus.com.au) and we will endeavour to reply promptly.*
- *We are doing our best to contact all patients to reschedule appointments, so please bear with us if we have not reached you yet.*

Our thoughts are with the people of Melbourne, Victoria, and our patients in particular. The city is now in possibly the harshest COVID-19 lockdown in the world. This is difficult and challenging for everyone. Please remember that it is important to stay healthy physically and mentally. Exercise regularly, eat a nutritious diet, keep in touch with your friends and families, and regularly check on your loved ones.

Warmest wishes to you all...

***Dr. Donny, Dr. Dan, Dr. Richard, Dr. Alex, Dalena, Siniya, Kylie, Nardene and Ayako***