



Dear Friends,

This is a difficult letter for me to write. Due to health problems, my doctor has advised me it is necessary for me to retire. I regret not being able to tell you all in person. I have been practicing dentistry for over forty years. Some of you have been with me the entire time. We've "matured" together. In many cases, I've treated your children, your grandchildren, and, in a few cases, your great-grandchildren. We've gone through births, deaths, marriages, new careers, and retirements. I have shared your joys and your anguish, and many of you have shared mine. I thank you all and count you among my life's many blessings.

Now for the good news. I didn't want to leave my practice without finding someone to take over who shared my philosophy of providing gentle, caring, dentistry and putting the patient first. Besides being skilled and experienced, I wanted my successor to be compassionate, a good communicator, ethical, and someone who genuinely cares about dentistry and people. I feel fortunate that I have found that person. I am happy to announce that Dr. Amisha Patel will be assuming the responsibility of the practice beginning April 28. Dr. Patel received her Bachelor of Science from the University of California, Los Angeles; her dental degree from Boston University School of Dental Medicine; and did a dental residency at my old alma mater, University of Pacific. She has practiced as a general dental associate for several years. I've enclosed a letter from Dr. Patel giving you some more information about herself. I will be around the office for a week or two to finish some of the cases which are in progress, and Dr. Patel and I will continue to discuss cases as necessary to ensure a smooth transition and the continuity of your care while she gets to know you. I am very pleased that our wonderful staff will be staying with Dr. Patel. The same friendly smiles will greet you when you arrive, and their knowledge of your individual needs will assure that you continue to receive excellent dental care.

I will miss seeing you all on a regular basis, but my wife and I plan on being patients of Dr. Patel's, so I may get to visit with you someday soon in the waiting room. I truly wish to thank you for your loyalty and friendship over the years and for allowing me to be a part of your life; I'm confident that your dental needs are left in caring hands.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Whitaker, DDS