

WHAT KIND OF CLEANING DO YOU NEED?

Your teeth are intended to last a lifetime and they can, with proper care. This means thorough daily brushing and flossing and regular professional cleanings to avoid periodontal disease.

Dental disease cannot be cured, but it can be controlled. It is our responsibility to you, to deliver the highest quality dentistry possible. Your responsibility will be to maintain it. By regularly scheduling appointments with our team and maintaining your home health care regimen, together we can keep your dental healthcare at its' highest level possible.

We are here to take care of your dental needs. Should you have any questions regarding your treatment plan, please feel free to ask any of our team

Periodontal diseases are the major cause of tooth loss in adults. The most common types of periodontal disease are gingivitis and periodontitis.

Gingivitis is the earliest stage of periodontal disease and affects only the gum tissue. At this stage the disease is still reversible. However, if left untreated, it can progress to a more severe condition.

Periodontitis is the more advanced stage of the disease. Here the infection in the gum tissue has spread into the bone structure which supports the teeth. At this stage, more extensive treatment is required to prevent tooth loss.

The method of treatment for periodontal disease depends upon the type of disease and how far the condition has progressed. We provide the following therapeutic cleanings:

Scale and Root Planing: Scale & Root Planing is done when the patient has periodontal disease with moderate to severe bone loss. Usually half of the mouth (2 quadrants) is treated at a time, taking 60 minutes per session. In this procedure, while the patient is numb, the plaque debris and calculus deposits are removed from the deep pockets beneath the gum line. Thorough oral hygiene instructions are provided to the patient. Within 1-2 weeks the other half of the mouth will be treated. Four to six weeks after the scale & root planing a periodontal maintenance appointment is required to evaluate the amount of healing, remove residual calculus and to determine the appropriate re-care interval.

Gross Debridement: A Gross Debridement is performed when the patient has been diagnosed with moderate to severe gingivitis and some beginning bone loss or when there has been a significant buildup of calculus. This procedure takes approximately 1 hour. The hygienist removes the majority of the plaque debris and calculus (tartar) from around the teeth and beneath the gum line. The patient is then given thorough oral hygiene instruction to follow at home. The combination of this initial cleaning and the patient's increased oral hygiene regimen will allow the tissue to shrink and heal. A gross debridement is always followed by a fine scale or periodontal maintenance appointment approximately two- three weeks later.

Periodontal Maintenance/Fine Scale: A Fine Scale/Perio Maintenance appointment is the necessary follow-up to a gross debridement and scaling & root planing. This procedure takes approximately 1 hour. The hygienist evaluates the amount of healing the patient has had after their initial cleaning. In most cases, with appropriate home care, the tissue will have shrunk, revealing additional calculus, which was previously covered by the inflamed tissue. This calculus is removed and the teeth are then polished. The hygienist will determine the appropriate re-care interval for the patient's continued oral health.