

8. I WORE BRACES AS A CHILD BUT NOW TWENTY YEARS LATER MY TEETH ARE CROOKED.

Answer: I wore braces twice but I know why I needed them again. There are many explanations not excuses why the human body changes over time. The way teeth are is a story that teaches us where they should be and some changes short of perfection are normal and acceptable. We need to know more about your particular situation than to print a universal answer.

9. DO YOU ACCEPT MEDICAID OR MEDICARE?

Answer: I am not a provider for either, but I do as much pro bono treatment to deserving individuals as I can financially afford. Unfortunately, not many orthodontist are willing to accept Medicaid because of the lack of personal commitment and compliance with complete government subsidized treatment. It is sad, but true, if there is no cost there is no worth or value. Medicare does not cover orthodontic treatment for seniors.

10. IS THERE ANY WAY TO PREVENT ORTHODONTIC PROBLEMS FROM HAPPENING?

Answer: Yes, pick your parents wisely as genetics determine a number of things. Second, have a healthy pre and post birth mother and live in a healthy environment (almost impossible now). Third, eat a cave man diet to develop powerful facial muscles and strong facial bones, no processed foods or sugars imbedded in packaged food and drink. Swallow correctly with proper tongue function and always breathe through your nose. Intercepting orthodontics is not preventative but early treatment at ages 5-8 can reduce or control developing problems. There are several oral/facial manipulations skilled osteopaths can make 10 minutes after birth that could be very beneficial to normal facial development. Lot more for us to learn, but we are willing to share what we know so that you can make wise decisions.

Obviously, there are other dental questions needing an answer, especially with complex problems that need a team effort to resolve. Orthodontics is only a part of most solutions and the original cause always needs to be addressed and understood. We make sure you have the best information available for your particular concern so that you will make a well informed decision about your oral health.

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QUESTION
AUTHORITY

QUESTION
EVERYTHING

BUT

*Get an honest answer
from a reliable source*

All the things you want to know, nowadays, are either Googled or viewed on You-tube instead of asking the question to someone who knows that you are an important decision maker who wants to understand the real difference between all the confusing / conflicting messages internet marketing have imposed on orthodontics.

A well-informed parent or patient is one who understands what is the best multiple choice answer for their specific need at a specific time for long term stability. More difficult is appreciating value over price and quality over mediocracy. I believe that oral health is the best indication of physical health and nothing you will ever wear beats a beautiful smile.

Below are some of the questions that I believe prospective patients want to ask and need to ask. Obviously, answers need to be brief but will be fully explained at our courtesy consultation. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain from a reliable source that only has your best interest at heart.

1. WHY SHOULD I CHOSE AN ORTHODONTIC SPECIALIST WHEN MY DENTIST IS WILLING TO TREAT MY PROBLEM?

Answer:

Ask your dentist if they have the two to three additional years of training, experience, and specialty degree or certification and why they don't feel that is a necessary prerequisite? Can they show you their results of many finished cases similar to yours? Is their office staff trained and certified in orthodontic techniques, Instrumentation, terminology? Is part-time dabbling equivalent to thousands of successfully treated cases?

2. WHY ARE BRACES SO EXPENSIVE?

Answer:

The cost of orthodontic services are lower and more affordable now than 50 years ago. A bridge or single implant paid for at delivery can cost as much as two years of orthodontic treatment spread out over time. Orthodontic treatment is the best bargain in dentistry and will last a lifetime with diligence. Treatment is affordable for anyone motivated to improve appearance and health.

3. DO YOU ACCEPT MY INSURANCE?

Answer:

Orthodontic benefits are different than dental or medical. Usually they pay a fixed life time benefit of \$1000 - \$2000 which reduces the treatment fee by that amount. We help you obtain that reimbursement. You are not obligated to stay in a network with a PPO plan. A plan that dictates who your doctor will be is a plan to be avoided. Freedom of choice is important.



4. WHY DO SOME ORTHODONTISTS STILL USE UGLY METAL AND WIRE WHEN IT IS NO LONGER NECESSARY?

Answer:

Attachments on teeth do not have to be metal, other options are available, but there will always be indications for the engineering precision and excellence that custom designed brackets and wire deliver. Plastic aligners have limitations, but also advantages. The perfect solution for everyone has not been invented yet.

5. I HEAR THAT TEETH CAN BE STRAIGHTENED MUCH FASTER NOW, LIKE IN 6 MONTHS?

Answer:

There are several legitimate effective techniques for speeding up tooth movement that add to the cost of treatment and are difficult to comply with, but some advertisement offerings are extremely misleading. Teeth have a biological response time that can vary greatly depending on the type of movement. It is not how fast teeth move but how well teeth have been corrected and above all else, retained post treatment. A cooperative healthy patient is a key factor in treatment time. If speed is your only consideration, you will never be treated correctly.

6. WITH SMILE DIRECT I CAN STRAIGHTEN MY TEETH WITHOUT UNNECESSARY COSTS AND APPOINTMENTS?

Answer:

My first obligation to everyone is to provide the highest level of care and protect the public from bad decisions. You and the company are breaking the Florida Dental Practice Act, practicing dentistry without a Florida license. Even worse, you don't know how to be your own orthodontist and evaluate your oral health and the reason your teeth need correction. Without X-ray analysis, pocket probing depths, bone and gum quality assessment and critical diagnostic thinking skills you are committing negligent malpractice. You are especially unqualified to take a proper accurate impression with quality material since this is impossible with Smile Direct putty in a cup and flexible trays. Lastly the teeth cannot move properly if there is no supervision to do IPR where indicated which is impossible to do on yourself. There will always be frauds who make something worse and sell it cheaper. We are already retreating well intentioned people who wasted their money. Not a wise choice! Don't be tempted.

7. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD BY DENTIST THAT TO AVOID ANY ORTHODONTIST WHO EXTRACTS PREMOLARS.

Answer:

That is one of the reasons general dentist should not be doing orthodontics or giving advice when they do not know what they do not know. They unwittingly believe that removing any teeth reduces the airway which any anatomy book will prove is in the nose and throat, not in the mouth. The airway is a complicated collapsible tube subject to many influences having nothing to do with teeth. Reduced airway volume is a decisive factor in sleep apnea and breathing disorders, but your teeth in proper position are not part of the problem. Orthodontists have been knowledgeable about airway issues for over one hundred years. Proper sleep and breathing correctly is the foundation for mental and physical health and is a priority concern with any orthodontic treatment. There are situations where it is absolutely impossible or damaging to bone and gums to attempt to force all teeth into the mouth.

