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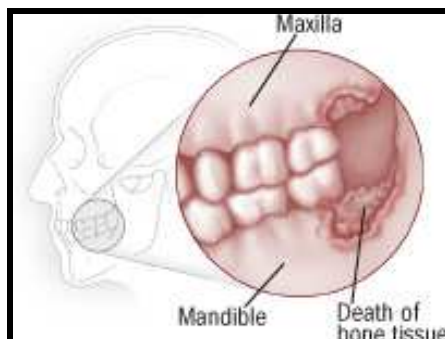


Did you know?

Bisphosphonates have been used since 1970 to treat and prevent osteoporosis. They are also prescribed to patients diagnosed with certain bone cancers. At present, bisphosphonates are the best tool to reduce bone loss and significantly reduce the chance of bone fractures. It is estimated that 24% of patients with osteoporotic fractures not treated by bisphosphonates will die because of these fractures. Oral bisphosphonates (common names include Fosamax, Boniva and Actonel) are usually prescribed for osteoporosis, while IV bisphosphonates (common names include Aredia and Zometa) are typically prescribed for patients with advanced bone cancers to help decrease pain and fractures.

Recently, reports of osteonecrosis of the jaw (ONJ) associated with bisphosphonates have caused fear about using bisphosphonates. However, these reports are based solely on patients who were hospitalized for cancer therapy and undergoing chemotherapy. These patients were being given the IV form of the bisphosphonates at four times the normal oral dose. In rare cases bisphosphonates, especially the IV form, can cause ONJ. ONJ can cause severe, irreversible, and often debilitating damage to the jaw. This condition can be worsened by invasive dental procedures such as tooth extractions or dental implants. Symptoms of ONJ include:

- Loose teeth
- Numbness or a feeling of heaviness in the jaw
- Pain, swelling, or infection of the gums or jaw
- Gums that do not heal
- Exposed bone



Although the risk of developing ONJ is extremely small, it is very important to inform your dental team if your physician prescribes a bisphosphonate because your dental treatment plan may be affected. Other risk factors associated with ONJ include: age, gender and other medical conditions.

What about this?

Peri-implantitis is the destructive inflammatory process affecting the soft and hard tissues surrounding a dental implant. The pathogenic bacteria found in association with periodontal disease is the same as those found in peri-implantitis and can be diagnosed the same way – by using salivary diagnostic tests. The tests are easy: just swish a little sterile solution in your mouth, and spit in a vial. We send it off to the lab. It doesn't get any easier than that!

Salivary diagnostic tests are a relatively new and exciting tool dentists can use to diagnose severe periodontal disease and to anticipate a patient's candidacy for dental implants. There are two tests we will use: One will determine if pathogenic bacteria already exist (MYPERIOPATH) and the other will test DNA to determine if these bacteria are likely to develop in a patient's mouth (MYORALDNA). This is vital information to have because we can use a combination of antibiotics, specific to the type of bacteria found, to kill the bacteria. The second test is used to determine genetic susceptibility to develop pathogenic bacteria that cause periodontal disease and/or peri-implantitis.

By utilizing these tests we can treat the condition prior to implant placement and in the event of genetic susceptibility, both patient and dentist will be armed with that knowledge and can be vigilant in regular testing to maintain the vitality of the implants after they have been placed. We want to use every tool available to ensure the long-term oral health of our patients and are excited by the results of these tests.

Our CBCT

i-CAT®



We would like to introduce you to our latest addition in technology to our office. The i-CAT® CBCT (cone beam computed tomography). The CBCT creates high-resolution 3-D images that allow us to more accurately visualize internal anatomy, assess risk, and plan treatment and surgery.

CBCT scanners have been available for craniofacial imaging since 1999 in Europe and since 2001 in the United States. Some of the diagnostics the CBCT can be used for are:

- ◆ implant planning
- ◆ endodontic anomalies
- ◆ TMJ analysis
- ◆ airway studies related to sleep apnea
- ◆ impacted teeth
- ◆ orthodontics
- ◆ jaw tumor
- ◆ periodontal disease

The 3-D image provides much more information than a 2-D image because it creates a 360° model, which can be rotated and sliced to view different tissue types such as bone, teeth, nerves and soft tissue for analysis. CBCT images are extremely accurate and free of magnification and distortion we see with regular X-ray images. This accuracy is essential in many diagnostic and treatment planning procedures. Due to the fact that your doctor can 'see more' more accurately, more defined and possibly wider choice of treatment plans can be offered. CBCT scan has become the "Gold Standard" of diagnostic imaging.

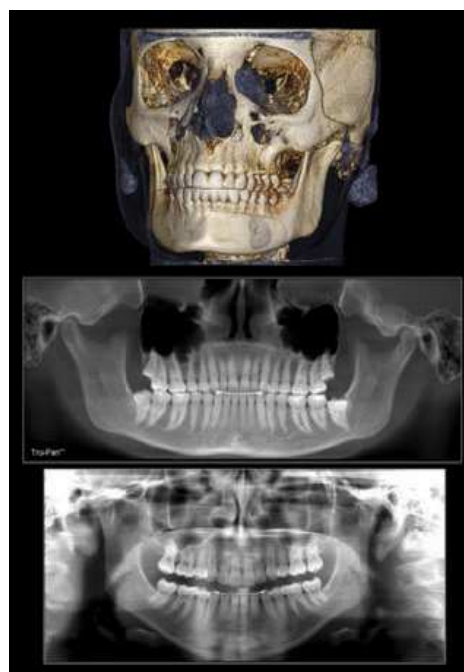
The CBCT scanner uses an x-ray beam that is cone shaped, rather than fan shaped. This cone shape dramatically reduces the level of radiation exposure compared to the technology used in medical CT

scans. The i-CAT® is designed to reduce the radiation even more by providing flexibility in scan size. We are able to reduce the scan size to target a specific region or enlarge the area to view more depending on the diagnostic need. Below is a table demonstrating various radiation levels from different types of radiographs.

<u>Dental Radiographs</u>	Traditional mSv	Digital (used here) mSv
Bitewings (4 films)	0.038	0.013
Full mouth (19 films)	0.150	0.060
CBCT		0.087 - 0.206
<u>Medical Radiographs</u>		
Lower GI series		4.060
Upper GI series		2.44
CT scan (head)		2
Annual avg. from natural sources is 3.60 mSv = .009 per day		

The invention of the CBCT is said to be one of the most important dental diagnostic tools and technological leap in dentistry. These images are often critical to precise diagnoses and more effective treatment planning, reducing nasty surprises. We are excited to offer this latest technology to our patients. A CBCT scan will help our patients make more informed decisions about their treatment with confidence in the outcome.

Prepare to be amazed! The images are incredible.



Is Tooth Whitening Safe?

This is a question we often get asked. To our knowledge nothing detrimental has been documented and microscopic research shows no changes to the tooth surface with use of 10% bleaching solution. Most research available was initially done with a 10% concentration. There is no literature that we have come across showing any structural changes or irreversible damage to the tooth structure whatsoever. Tooth whitening is safe when following the product instructions. Pregnant women or those who are nursing should not use bleaching gel since there are no scientific studies on the effects on a fetus or newborn.



There are three types of bleaching tools: in the dental office, at home with a tray, and the whitening strips or brush on whitening gel. We make custom bleach trays that fit your mouth, you take them home and fill with bleaching gel. There are also bleaching kits that you can buy at the drug store that include a tray that can be heated up and molded to your teeth, they just don't fit as well as the ones we make for you from a model of your mouth. Then there are the strips or brush on gel that you can get at the drug store as well.

All of these types may cause tooth and/or gum sensitivity. This is sensitivity to cold/hot fluids and even air can cause discomfort. This is a normal and expected side effect. Discontinue use for a few days and the sensitivity will dissipate within 24-48 hours. Bleaching does not need to be done consecutively. You will get to the same whitening point, it will just take a little longer. Once you reach the shade you want, you only need to bleach every 6 months to maintain.

It is advised that you come in for a dental exam to make sure there are no conditions that would make bleaching inadvisable. Keep in mind that tooth whitening does not work on crowns, veneers or tooth colored composite, only nature teeth can be whitened.

Try to solve this cryptogram

Hint: Your dental office has this....

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
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 BLOG- WWW.SLOSMILESINFO.COM

The Art of Dentistry

Mission Statement

Our mission is to deliver quality, comfortable dental care to you, our patient. We are committed to treating you in a respectful compassionate, and timely fashion. We will strive daily to educate you on the importance of your oral health and its implications as it relates to your body as a whole. Our goal is that when you leave our office, you will feel good about your dental experience.

JOINING THE ELECTRONIC AGE

We are pleased to announce that we have begun to send our newsletter electronically. If you haven't done so yet, please visit our web site and go to the "contact us" page where you can send us an e-mail with your e-mail address.

AND...

Believe it or not, we are blogging and tweeting too! Who ever would have guessed? Please visit and/or follow us at:

www.slosmiles.com (web site)
www.slosmilesinfo.com (blog)

From our blog site you can join us on Twitter by clicking the blue T icon and follow the directions.

All Under One Roof

Leopold, Murphy and Main DDS is much more than your General Dentist. We offer the following services and home care products:

- Cosmetic Dentistry
- Digital X-Rays/ CBCT
- Endodontics
- Invisalign
- Implants
- Laser Surgery
- Night Guards
- Oral Cancer Screening
- Oral Sedation
- OralDNA Lab Tests
- Periodontal Maintenance
- Sealants– Children & Adults
- Sulcular (Gum) Laser Decontamination
- Veneers
- Whitening

Home care products:

- Oral-B Triumph
- Oxyfresh 3000 and Waterpik Ultra Oral Irrigators
- Oxyfresh Toothpaste, Rinse and

Soothing Gel

- Thieves Toothpaste and Mouthwash
- TheraSol
- MI Paste and Dry Mouth Gel
- Bleach Refill Kits
- Cold and Canker sore medication
- CariFree Treatment & Maintenance Kits

