

◆ Fill In ◆

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Dr. Silvers is proud to announce that Dr. SilversIII has joined his practice.

Dr. Silvers is a 1985 graduate of Central Dauphin High School, a 1990 graduate of the University of Pittsburgh with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry/Biophysics and graduated Cum Laude from the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine 1994. While attending dental school, he worked as an anesthesia technician at the Presbyterian University Hospital. While there he was part of the liver transplant team.

Following dental school Dr. Silvers entered the United States Air Force for a one year residency program at Wright Patterson Air Force Base Medical Center Dayton, OH. He then fulfilled his two year commitment at Hurlburt Field Special Operations Base in Ft. Walton Beach, Florida as part of the Medical Group. In addition to general dentistry he became certified in I.V. sedation.

Below is a press release by the Air Force.

Citation to Accompany the Award of The Air Force Commendation Medal to Warren D. Silvers III

Captain Warren D. Silvers III distinguished himself by meritorious service as a General Dentistry Officer, 16th Medical Operations Squadron, 16th Special Operations Wing, Hurlburt Field, Florida, from 14 August 1995 to 15 August 1997. During this period Captain Silvers revitalized the continuing education program which is critical to meeting the Department of Defense goal of providing world class health care. He identified shortfalls in providers' hours and ingeniously found avenues to help them exceed requirements with minimum cost to the clinic. His exceptional abilities in administering intravenous sedation while providing complex exodontia greatly decreased lost duty time and saved numerous patients from referral to other bases. Capt. Silvers' active participation in the preventive dentistry program increased dental awareness of our patient population and improved home care of the local school children. As the Alternate, Flight Dentist Coordinator, Captain Silvers consistently realigned his busy schedule to accommodate dental emergencies, greatly minimizing flyer downtime. By his professional abilities, he significantly contributed to the success of the 16th Medical Operations Squadron and the 16th Special Operations Wing. The distinctive accomplishments of Captain Silvers while serving his country reflect credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

Kinnetic Cavity Preperation Replaces the Drill

A new technique, the Kinetic Cavity Preparation (KCP) may mean the end of dentophobia as we know it. Instead of grinding away tooth structure as the drill does, the KCP system prepares tooth enamel with tiny particles of alpha alumina (a substance used in toothpaste) carried in a stream of compressed air. Gone are the drill's noise, heat and vibrations. Eighty percent of patients don't even need anesthesia.

Better still the new treatment means about 30 percent less time in the chair, costs the same as conventional treatment and, because it is more precise, leaves more healthy tooth intact.

Another advantage to the process: KCP allows Dr. Silvers to remove stains on teeth so that he can detect whether decay has truly set in. If it has, the cavity can be filled. If not the discoloration can be removed and the tooth can be treated with a sealant to prevent a cavity from developing.

In other words the KCP will be able to prevent and detect cavities at a much earlier stage, so you won't suffer decay as you get older.

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KCP

The subsequent fillings are expected to last longer too. They are smaller, so they are less susceptible to wear, and the tooth to filling bond has been found in preliminary studies to be twice as strong as those resulting from the conventional procedure.

Since these restorations are white, another advantage is the KCP can be used to repair fractures in porcelain crowns, and small chips in natural teeth

Intraoral camera allows for early detection of decay

We have been using an intraoral camera for over a year in the office. This camera allows us to take a picture of your tooth and show it on a monitor. It magnifies the tooth 40 times. By using a combination of the camera and the KCP we have found many of the dark grooves in teeth to have significant decay. This has allowed us to treat decay earlier and preserve more natural tooth structure so that the tooth will remain stronger in the future.

The intraoral camera also helps to diagnose fractures in teeth and fillings. When a patient

complains of pain on chewing or biting, we often are able to find micro fractures in the tooth. These fractures are not readily seen by a visual exam but the small movement when the two segments flex under pressure can cause severe pain.

The camera also has helped to explain home care procedures for patients. There are just some areas of your mouth that you can not see. We have tried using the large hand held mirrors which helped some. But never enough. Now we can not only show you the areas of concern but we can record the pictures on our computer for future comparison.

Those recorded pictures can also be of assistance when we need to explain to your insurance company the reason that a certain dental treatment is needed.

Dental Sealants

What is a sealant?

A dental sealant is a thin plastic film painted on the chewing surfaces of molars and premolars (the teeth directly in front of the molars). Sealants have been shown to be highly effective in the prevention of cavities. They were developed through dental research in the 1950's and first became available commercially in the early

1970's. The first sealant was accepted by the American Dental Association in 1972.

How effective are sealants:

Scientific studies have proven that properly applied sealants are 100 percent effective in protecting the tooth surfaces from caries. Because sealants act as a physical barrier to decay, protection is determined by the sealant's ability to adhere to the tooth. As long as the sealant remains intact, small food particles and bacteria that cause cavities cannot penetrate through or around a sealant. In fact, research has shown that sealants actually stop cavities when placed on top of a slightly decayed tooth by sealing off the supply of nutrients to the bacteria that causes a cavity.

Sealant protection is reduced or lost when part or all of the bond between the tooth and sealant is broken.

How long will a sealant last?

Sealants should last five years, but can last as long as 10 years. One study reported that seven years after application, an impressive 49 percent of treated teeth were still completely covered. Sealants should not be considered permanent. Regular dental check-ups are necessary to monitor the sealant's bond to the tooth.

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