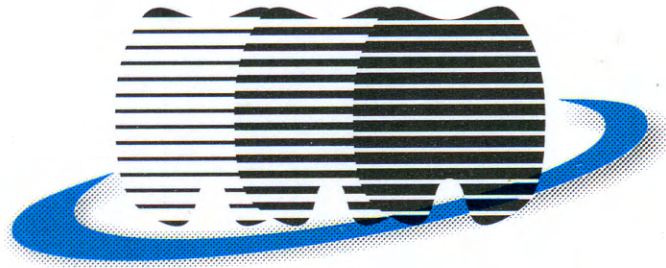


PatiensINFO



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WELCOME TO OUR OFFICE

We are pleased to have you as a new patient and hope this leaflet will enable you to become familiar with our procedures.

In addition to providing orthodontic care for children and adolescents, Dr. Thomas is greatly experienced in the treatment of adults.

He is European- and American- trained, and has been a member of the American Association of Orthodontists for 20 years and is a Fellow of the World Federation of Orthodontists.

Orthodontics

Orthodontics is the specialty in dentistry that deals with the diagnosis and treatment of anomalies of the teeth and the jaws, which very often affect function of the lips and jaw-joints, and can interfere with normal speech and breathing.

One of the foremost goals of orthodontic treatment is the enhancement of the beauty of the face.

Over the last 25 years adult orthodontic treatment has become an integral part of our specialty, which traditionally provided treatment for children and adolescents only.

The orthodontist should first see a child at about the age of six when the baby-teeth have started to change. Early orthodontic treatment at that age can very often positively affect the development of the permanent teeth, and prevent future problems.

Airway problems require early treatment not only from the orthodontist but also from the ENT-specialist/allergist.

Speech problems frequently necessitate early orthodontics treatment and speech therapy alike.

Orthodontic treatment today, is not limited to a specific age group but can be of benefit to children, adolescents and adults of any age, alike.

Diagnosis

Careful analysis and evaluation of the orthodontic problem with the aid of the treatment records are paramount to excellent orthodontic care.

Besides extra- and intraoral photographs, impressions of the teeth and x-rays of the teeth, jaws and face are needed.

The amount of treatment required and the estimated treatment time can now be determined.

Common orthodontic problems before and after Treatment

1. Crowding



2. Deep overbite



3. Open bite



4. Mandibular retrognathia



5. Crossbite



Problems with lip-seal



Facial profile



OFFICE PROCEDURES

APPOINTMENTS

Preliminary examination or consultation.

On your first visit we carry out a clinical examination to determine your orthodontic needs. We will advise you of any problems and the necessary corrective treatment. We will discuss:

- further treatment procedures,
- the necessity for your cooperation,
- the anticipated length of treatment,
- the importance of good oral hygiene,
- the total fee and payment schedule.

If treatment is indicated, diagnostic records will be taken, to enable us to study the problem and determine the corrective procedures.

We will take:

- impressions for upper and lower study models,
- facial and oral photographs,
- a cephalometric head X-Ray and an X-Ray of the left hand (patients under 16 years of age).

Throughout treatment, further impressions, X-Ray, as well as photographs are usually needed.

After this appointment you will be contacted and told about your next stage of treatment.

- whether extraction are necessary,
- when you will receive your braces,
- what type of braces you will need.

BRACES

are attached to the teeth and cannot be removed other than by us.

Headgear

The headgear puts pressure against the upper teeth and jaw, holds them in position or helps move them back into better position. Depending on the severity of the problem, the headgear has to be worn from 10 – 16 hours per day.

If you need Fixed Braces, this will be a short appointment to put in the spacers. These are tiny elastics bands placed between your back teeth, upper and lower, to create space for the braces.

If you need Fixed Braces, this will be a long appointment, usually in the morning, lasting up to one hour.

After you have received your braces, it will be necessary for you to come back for check-ups every month.

RETAINER

At the end of treatment it will be necessary for you to wear a retainer. This is an appliance which will ensure that your teeth will maintain their correct position.

EMERGENCIES

In the event that something is wrong with your braces, please phone us immediately.

CANCELLATIONS

If unable to keep your appointment kindly give 24 hours notice

Dr. med. dent. Konstantinou Thomas

Braces are beautiful

