



It's Not the Same Old Dentistry Anymore



**By Dr. Walter R. Below,
D.M.D**

Advances in dental science and technology can make today's visit to the dentist almost enjoyable. Statistics from the American Dental Association from over a decade ago revealed that more people visited the dentist for the nice things that dentistry can offer rather than for relief of discomfort from dental disease.

The number one requested service: tooth whitening or bleaching. Whether by laser whitening or an at-home

technique using custom fitted mouth guards dental bleaching is a safe and effective technique to allow someone to achieve a whiter, more attractive smile without damage to the nerves of the teeth or the quality or character of the tooth enamel.

Ceramic restorations that can be used to restore or strengthen teeth that had been previously filled with silver amalgam can be done in one visit eliminating the two week return visit to cement the final restoration. Gone are the days of gooey impressions and poor fitting temporaries.

Braces can now be done using clear, invisible tooth aligners which straighten teeth without the stigma of metal brackets and wires. Porcelain laminate veneers used to change the size, shape or color of front teeth can be painlessly done without the need for injections to

numb the teeth. Smiles can be painlessly transformed giving a more desirable and attractive appearance. In our society that can be a huge advantage. Through the use of computer imaging smile enhancement can be seen before of tooth is even touched giving a preview of coming satisfaction.

The guesswork and leap of faith have been eliminated as has any discomfort. Improvements in digital technologies such as with x-rays and intra oral cameras can speak volumes about current conditions. No longer does one need to be overly concerned with exposure to radiation, since digital x-rays reduce this by a factor of ten while giving considerably better diagnostic information. A guided tour of your mouth using an intra oral camera will allow the visualization of problems such as cracks in the teeth or decay

around old silver fillings wear facets or teeth can be easily seen allowing one to understand the damage caused by clenching or grinding.

For those truly interested in optimal health a visit to a dentist knowledgeable in the latest diagnostic tests and treatments can be very enlightening or even life saving. People with heart disease or diabetes can greatly reduce or eliminate future complications by maintaining high

levels of oral health--namely no areas of bacterial plaque around teeth and no areas of bleeding gums. Even pregnant women can avoid pre-term low birth weight deliveries with attention to good oral health.

Managing a fast-paced lifestyle is hard enough without having to overcome oral infections slowing us down. Let your mouth be a source of gratification rather than giving you the blues.

Dr. Below strives to stay ahead of the curve on new techniques and information to better serve his patients. He participates in over 100 hours of continuing education annually and has memberships in organizations like the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry focused on dentistry's future from a scientific and/or esthetic perspective.

Dr. Walter R. Below has practiced in Westlake for over 20 years, receiving his dental degree at the University of Louisville's School of Dentistry in 1981.

He is a Fellow in the Academy of General Dentistry, General Member of the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry, and member of the American Dental Society of Anesthesiology and American Association of Hospital Dentists.

He was a Clinical Instructor in the Department of Periodontics at Case Western Reserve Dental School and on medical staff of Lakewood Hospital.

We provide an expertise for creating smiles that are confident, aesthetic and individualized.

Our years of experience in aesthetic bonding, orthodontics/braces, permanent and removable, bridges, tooth whitening, restorations, root canals and other general dentistry services allows us to give personal and individualized care.



wellness • function • appearance

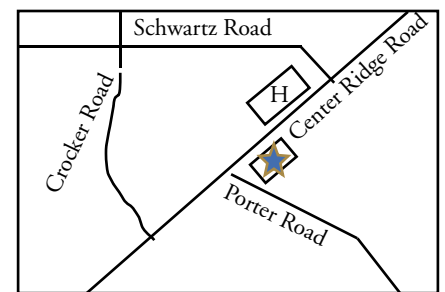


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