

What to expect at your first visit with us at University Dental Associates!

When people call in to our office to schedule their first visit, they can generally be categorized into two groups: those that are interested in having their teeth cleaned and having an overall evaluation, and those that have a specific need that they wish to have addressed.

If you are interested in having your teeth cleaned and having an overall evaluation of your mouth, we will schedule you to see our hygienist. When you arrive for your appointment, you will be greeted by Dr. Wilson or Wyndy at the front desk. If you haven't already done so, we'll give you patient registration forms so we can learn a little about you, including the type of dental insurance you have.

We will confirm your dental insurance coverage if any, then the hygienist will seat you in the treatment room. He or she will ask questions to get to know you, and to insure that we will address any issues or concerns that you have. X-rays, which may include a full mouth 3-D x-ray (CBCT or Cone Beam) will likely be taken so that we can give you a complete picture of your dental health.

While the hygienist is cleaning your teeth he or she will assess the health of your gums and make recommendations to you and to Dr. Orr for improvement. When the hygienist is finished with cleaning your teeth,

Dr. Orr or Dr. Wilson will come in and give you an overall evaluation. We will inspect for decay, new decay around existing fillings and crowns, missing teeth, gum health, how well your teeth fit together (bite or occlusion), alignment of your teeth, whiteness of your teeth, status of existing dentures, if any, presence of any tumors or growths. If you have several areas that need attention, we will help you decide what should be done first, and we'll make a plan to address all of your needs in order, in a way that makes sense for improving your overall health, how it affects your finances, and how best to use your dental insurance, if any. We will review your potential costs of treatment, and get you scheduled to start any needed treatment.

If you have a specific need you wish to have addressed, most likely a chipped/broken tooth, painful tooth, swelling, or other problem, we will get you into the chair as soon as possible. If your pain level is high, we will review your medical history and quickly give you anesthetic to eliminate the pain. Then we will do an assessment of your needs, and make a plan to address your concerns. If the issue can be taken care of that day, we will do so. If you came into the office in pain, you will be comfortable when you leave. We will help you to see that becoming a patient who does preventive care (changing your dental "oil"), is better than handling a dental crisis (getting a new dental "transmission.")