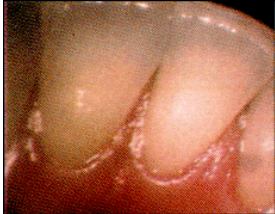




Importance of Regular Dental Visits

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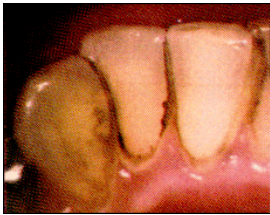
Why should you schedule another appointment so soon -- even if you've just had a perfect examination? Regular dental visits are essential to maintaining healthy teeth and gums. For maximum benefit, a good home care regimen must be supplemented with a professional examination at least every six to nine months. Depending on the status



Teeth & gums immediately after dental cleaning.



Six months after cleaning, teeth can have plaque build-up as well as stains from food, coffee, tea and tobacco.



One year after cleaning, plaque build-up can harden into tartar (or calculus) formation.

of your oral health, we may recommend more frequent visits.

Checking your teeth for decay is only a small part of a thorough oral exam. During each visit, your gums (gingiva) should be checked for inflammation, tooth mobility and pockets; your mouth examined for any indications of possible cancer,

diabetes and vitamin deficiencies; and any irregularities in your facial structure, bite, saliva, and temporomandibular joint (TMJ) noted.

The Regular Dental Visit

At every regularly-scheduled dental appointment, your teeth, gums, mouth and throat are checked. A normal visit to our office includes the following:

Head and Neck Examination:

- ✓ The Cancer Exam
- ✓ Facial Structure Exam
- ✓ Palpation of Chewing Muscles
- ✓ Palpation of Lymph Nodes
- ✓ Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ)

Clinical Dental Examination

- ✓ Periodontal Exam -- including gingiva, periodontal pockets
- ✓ Mobility of Teeth
- ✓ Mucous Membranes
- ✓ Saliva
- ✓ Occlusion (Bite)
- ✓ Decay of Teeth
- ✓ Broken Fillings
- ✓ Erosion
- ✓ Removable Appliances
- ✓ Contact Between Teeth

Necessary radiographs

Dental Cleaning (Prophylaxis)

- ✓ Assessment of Mouth Cleanliness
- ✓ Scaling
- ✓ Polishing
- ✓ Flossing
- ✓ Oral Hygiene Instructions

After completing the clinical dental exam, a detailed treatment will be outlined (if necessary) and an appointment for a follow-up visit will be scheduled. Regular preventive maintenance of this type, along with a thorough home care regimen, helps assure your good oral health.