

## PERIODONTAL THERAPY / PERIODONTAL MAINTENANCE

Periodontal disease is caused by a bacterial infection which starts in the pocket or space between your teeth and gums. Untreated this infection commonly spreads into the periodontal ligament surrounding the teeth and then to the bone supporting the teeth, eventually leading to tooth loss. This disease process is chronic and may have periods of more aggressive deterioration. More importantly, periodontal disease has been linked to many systemic diseases such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease, hypertension, stroke, respiratory diseases, pancreatic cancer, obesity, Alzheimer's disease, still birth, low birth rate babies, premature delivery, and the list continues to grow. Due to these health risks we no longer feel comfortable leaving periodontal disease untreated.

Although proper daily oral hygiene is a "must" it is often not enough to keep our mouths healthy. There are many contributing factors to our susceptibility to periodontal disease. Changes to your dental anatomy such as bone loss and tissue recession can inhibit your ability to achieve thorough removal of bacterial plaque at home. Genetics, your immune response, systemic diseases and medications can also play a large role in our vulnerability to disease.

Dr. \_\_\_\_\_ and her hygienist have recommended you have your periodontal disease treated. This entails \_\_\_3 \_\_\_4 \_\_\_5 \_\_\_6 - one hour appointments with your hygienist which including deep scaling, debriding the roots of any calculus and biofilm deposits with micro ultrasonic and hand scalers, liquid anti-microbial irrigation, and laser therapy to decontaminate the pockets, reduce bacteria and promote proper healing.

Dr. \_\_\_\_\_ and her hygienist recommend periodontal maintenance therapy every 2-4 months in order to keep the periodontal disease process controlled. This includes detailed assessment, isolated areas of deep scaling, routine prophylaxis and laser treatment as needed.

Some insurance companies do not participate in treatment that is the current standard of care based on existing science and research. Many insurance companies are behind the times and we want to offer you the best possible care that is available.

I understand that periodontal treatment therapy and/or periodontal maintenance therapy has been recommended and accept these recommendations.

**I choose not to comply** with these recommendations. Additionally, I understand that the risks involved in delaying therapy will most likely result in a progression of my periodontal disease as well as affect my overall health.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of patient/responsible party

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dental office representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## **Laser Assisted Prophy – Laser Bacterial Reduction (LBR)**

*DDS and/or RDH name here* are committed to providing a superior level of dental care to you, your family, and your friends. This commitment requires staying current on all the latest science, research and technology available to provide the highest level of care. We have recently added a new procedure to your cleaning appointment to help fight periodontal disease and keep your gums healthy.

We now know that approximately 80% of adults are affected with gum disease (aka: periodontal disease). Periodontal Disease is a bacterial infection in the pockets and gum tissue around teeth. The bacteria in your mouth are responsible for periodontal disease. Periodontal disease is associated with the following diseases; heart disease, diabetes, pulmonary disease, low birth weight and premature delivery, osteoporosis, Alzheimer's, pancreatic cancer, obesity, still birth, and hypertension.

Diode Lasers are now being used safely, and comfortably to decontaminate the gum tissue and pockets around the teeth prior to your dental cleaning as preventive care. The laser emits concentrated light energy, which kills unhealthy bacteria. This procedure is called Laser Bacterial Reduction (LBR). The major benefits of LBR are:

**TO REDUCE OR ELIMATE BACTEREMIA** – During the normal dental cleaning process and during the normal brushing and flossing, most patients will have some areas that may bleed. This allows bacteria that are present in all our mouths to flood into the bloodstream and sometimes settle in weakened areas of our body. As stated above, research shows that these bacteria that cause periodontal disease have now been linked to a growing number of other diseases. Using the laser prior to your dental cleaning allows us to remove the bacteria and reduce the bacterial flow into your bloodstream.

**TO PREVENT CROSS CONTAMINATION** – Infections in one area of your mouth can be transferred to other areas. Decontamination minimizes the chance that we may inadvertently pick up bacterial infection in one area of your mouth and move it to other areas.

**TO KILL PERIODONTAL DISEASE BACTERIA** – And stop their infections before they cause destruction of loss of attachment around your teeth.

Laser bacterial reduction is painless and normally takes about 5 minutes for the entire mouth. We highly recommend that you take advantage of this service as part of your cleaning appointment.

Laser Bacterial Reduction is \$35 and at this time some dental insurance does not assist with payment for LBR. Unfortunately, insurance coverage is almost always behind the leading edge in high tech health care.

Please ask \_\_\_\_\_ if you have any questions regarding this treatment. Please sign & date below if you would like this service. Thank you.

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Signature of Patient

**Advanced Dental Hygiene** ◆

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Date

◆ [www.AdvancedDentalHygiene.com](http://www.AdvancedDentalHygiene.com)