

## Practice Philosophy

The primary objective of this pediatric dental practice is to make your child's dental experience a comfortable and enjoyable one. We achieve this goal in a number of ways:

- Establish a good communication line with your child
- Gain his or her trust and confidence
- Make our visits as short as possible, and most importantly
- Show the child that we care for them and we would like them to have fun.

We normally take children 3 years and older back to the treatment area by themselves or with older brothers or sisters. This enables us to gain your child's full attention, allowing us to educate your child about this dental appointment. We routinely utilize an educational technique called "Tell, Show, and Do." This procedure removes most of a child's inherent "fear of the unknown." To ease this transition for your child, we recommend that children 2 to 3 years of age come back with an older brother or sister before his or her first scheduled appointment. This too, familiarizes your child with the sights, sounds, and smells of our dental office. Children under the age of 3 with dental problems will usually be examined with their parents present in the treatment room.

Please let us know in advance of your child's first appointment if you have any questions or concerns about the visit or this brochure. We are always happy to discuss with you any aspect of our dental practice at any time. We feel that good communication between you, your child, the doctors, and our staff will make your child's dental experience an enjoyable one.

## Also...

If at any time you have questions, please feel free to call our office. We are here to serve you. We appreciate you entrusting your child's dental care to us.

We sincerely trust that you and your child will find the first and all visits to our office comfortable and rewarding.

HAS AN APPOINTMENT

Monday    Tuesday    Wednesday  
 Thursday    Friday

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_ am / pm

*If you are unable to keep this appointment, please give us 48 hours notice so that the time may be given to another child.*



**PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY**

**Mark E. Morrow, D.D.S., M.S.D.**

**April A. Lai, D.D.S.**

**Kerry K. Edwards, D.D.S.**



2930 South Pittsburg Avenue  
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74114  
(918) 742-9810

[www.tulsadentistryforchildren.com](http://www.tulsadentistryforchildren.com)



Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

We are so pleased that you are coming to see us and look forward to seeing your happy smile.

Sincerely,

Dr. Morrow, Dr. Lai,  
Dr. Edwards, and Staff



**PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY**

Mark E. Morrow, D.D.S., M.S.D. • April A. Lai, D.D.S. • Kerry K. Edwards, D.D.S.

## Pediatric Dentistry

A pediatric dentist is specialty-trained during two additional years of post doctorate graduate dental school to work with infants, children, adolescents, and the developmentally disabled. Our team is also well-trained to work with the patients we serve.

We believe that the first dental examination for your child should occur between the ages of 12 and 18 months. Many problems which might otherwise develop can be prevented with early dental visits.

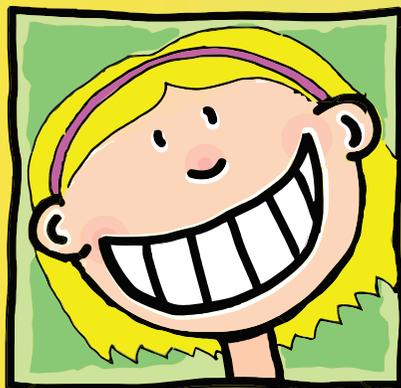
We are deeply committed to the total health and well-being of your child and to the ideals of preventive dentistry.

## Before the First Visit

Please discuss the positive aspects of dentistry with your child. Convey good feelings to your child about dental visits being a part of growing up. Please do not say, "The dentist will not hurt you." Instead, say, "The dentist will be very gentle with you while looking at your teeth." If you or anyone around the child has an existing fear of the dentist, work hard not to transfer these fears to your child. If you expect your child to react well and enjoy the first visit to our office, chances are he or she will do exactly that.

The appointment time on the back of this brochure is reserved specifically for your child. A cancellation or change should be made at least 48 hours in advance, so that we may give that time to another patient.

Please alert us in advance if there are any medical conditions that you feel are important about your child. Also, complete



the enclosed health history form and bring it with you for your child's first appointment.

For your convenience the health history form is also available on our website at [www.tulsadentistryforchildren.com](http://www.tulsadentistryforchildren.com). It can be completed online, you then have the option to print the form or forward it to our office via email at [np@tulsadenistryforchildren.com](mailto:np@tulsadenistryforchildren.com).

## The First Visit

Our patient coordinator will review the health history form with you and will explain to your child what he or she should expect on their first visit.

In contrast to adults, we have found that children are more apt to have a positive dental experience if they are in an open bay area. While adults prefer to be alone with privacy, children prefer to see and sit next to other children. Therefore, after reviewing the health history and discussing any parental concern, we will escort the patient to the open examination area. He or she will be sitting next to their siblings or other children in a comfortable kid friendly setting. Our office is designed with a large window area that allows you to observe the dental cleaning, examination and overall fun environment we have created for your child.

Depending on need, X-rays may be taken to determine your child's present dental condition and development. Dr. Morrow, Dr. Lai, or Dr. Edwards will examine the hard and soft tissues of the mouth and evaluate your child's bite relationship. After the exam is complete the doctor will discuss any treatment needs with you in a private consultation room. Additional services will usually be scheduled for a later visit.

Payment is expected on the day that the service is rendered, however, as a courtesy to our patients with insurance, we accept assignment of benefits for covered procedures. Please be prepared to provide current insurance information. The parent and/or guardian bringing the child to our office is legally responsible for payment. Any patient portion estimated is expected at the time of treatment and can be made by cash, check, Mastercard, Visa, Discover, American Express, or Care Credit.



## Oral Hygiene

Oral hygiene habits are established at a very early age. Infants need to have their teeth brushed for them nightly as soon as his or her first tooth erupts. As the child gets older, he or she may gradually take over partial responsibility for brushing, but parents need to do visual checks on their children up to the age of 9. After that age, the child should have the manual dexterity to do a satisfactory job with his or her oral hygiene.

Dental decay is usually caused in children with numerous snacks in between meals and with inadequate oral hygiene. A few healthy habits can lower the incidence of dental decay in your children. Never put infants to bed with a bottle, get your child trained with a cup around his or her first birthday, limit the number of times a day your child eats or drinks sugary snacks, and establish oral hygiene habits in your children that remove the dental plaque at least twice a day. With your help and ours, your child's decay should be minimal or nonexistent.

Many of today's children are now growing up cavity-free. Once considered impossible, it is now a reality for many children by combining dental check-ups every 6 months, fluoride applications, sealants on the permanent molars and good oral hygiene habits.

## Accidents

Please call our office as soon as possible after the accident involving your child's teeth, and we will see your child immediately. If a tooth is knocked out, please rinse the tooth off in a gentle stream of tap water and replace the tooth back into the socket. If this is impossible, keep the tooth moist in a cup of saliva or water. Call our office immediately, since the first 45 minutes are the most critical. If the accident is after normal office hours or on a weekend, call the office phone number (742-9810) and the answering machine will instruct you how to get in touch with Dr. Morrow, Dr. Lai, Dr. Edwards, or a doctor who is on call for them. If your child is knocked unconscious from the trauma, contact your local emergency room first instead of us. The impending medical problem may be more serious than the dental problem the trauma may have caused.

In order to accommodate an injured child, our schedule may be delayed. Please accept our apologies ahead of time should this occur during your appointment. Understand we will do exactly the same if your child is ever in need of emergency care.

Payment is requested at each appointment as the service is rendered and can be made by cash, check, Mastercard, Visa, Discover, American Express, or Carecredit.