

COSMETIC DENTISTRY: THE PERFECT SMILE

BY MARLENE PITURRO

After greeting every new patient in his private office rather than first encountering them in the dental chair, Jan Linhart, DDS, a dentist specializing in cosmetic and restorative dentistry, puts them at ease and begins work on achieving the perfect smile. Backed by an inter-disciplinary team of oral health care professionals including an implant specialist, a periodontist, an orthodontist, a root canal specialist, three hygienists and three general dentists, Dr. Linhart uses a variety of techniques including gum sculpting with a laser to create a more favorable gum line, immediate implants to replace lost teeth, and porcelain veneers to create more beautiful smiles.

“Porcelain veneers are a particularly useful procedure in cosmetic dentistry,” says Dr. Linhart, adding that “we complete this smile makeover process with two visits.” Starting with taking pictures of the patient’s teeth, Dr. Linhart then discusses what type of look the patient wants, natural versus dynamic, for example. He makes a wax model of what the patient’s new smile will look like and applies a temporary veneer so they can try the new look. On the second visit he applies the permanent veneer in which the veneer is bonded to the tooth enamel. The procedure is popular with patients ranging in age from 17 to 80 years, and costs approximately \$1800 to \$2000 per tooth. Thanks to cutting edge technologies and his team’s expertise, Dr. Linhart produces natural-looking teeth with durable dental materials that can last approximately 12 to 15 years.

To learn more about cosmetic dentistry or find a local provider visit the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry’s web site. www.aacd.com

Other popular cosmetic dentistry treatments include:

- ◆ Composite bonding for chipped, broken, discolored or decayed teeth
- ◆ Teeth Whitening through bleaching stained teeth
- ◆ Dental implants-artificial tooth root replacements for lost teeth
- ◆ Full mouth reconstruction to improve not only teeth’s appearance but necessary treatment to correct underlying functional problems with bite, muscles, teeth and bone structure.

