



# HUNTINGTON DENTAL GROUP

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#0610

### Featured Topics



**Methamphetamine Use**

**Prophylactic  
Antibiotic Use -**

### On the Frontlines:

**Dentists Play A Key  
Role in Maintaining  
Patient's Overall  
Health - From Oral  
Cancer To Diabetes  
To Prevention Of  
And Involving  
Cardiac  
Complications**

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## ZOOM! ZOOM! ZOOM!

ZOOM! is a chairside whitening system scientifically advanced tooth whitening procedure. It's safe, effective and fast. In less than an hour your teeth will become dramatically whiter. ZOOM! chairside whitening is ideal for anyone looking for immediate results. The convenience of ZOOM! in comparison to days of wearing trays or strips, makes it the perfect choice for the busy individual.



The procedure is simple. It begins with a short preparation to cover the lips and gums, leaving only the teeth exposed. The ZOOM! whitening gel is then applied which is designed to be used with the specially designed light. The ZOOM! light and gel work together to gently penetrate your teeth, breaking up stains and discoloration. With proper care, your smile will sparkle for years.

There are many causes why teeth may become discolored. The most common include ageing and consumption of staining substances such as coffee, tea, colas, tobacco, red wine, etc. During tooth formation, consumption of tetracycline (an antibiotic) can also be a cause for tooth discoloration.

Almost anyone can benefit from tooth whitening. However, treatment may not be as effective for some as for others.



**Osteoporosis:** About 44 million Americans are affected with this disease, according to the National Osteoporosis Foundation (NOF). Since dental panoramic X-Rays over time can detect bone density changes, routine dental visits play an important part in catching early signs of this disease (among others). More information about this disease is available on the web at the following address: [www.nof.org](http://www.nof.org)

**GERD:** Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD), sometimes confused with 'just heartburn' can be a life threatening condition that can lead to cancer of the esophagus. Routine dental exams can sometimes be one of the first ways to see early signs of this disease, including erosion, dishing or scalloping of the non-occlusal surfaces.

## Prophylactic Antibiotics

If you are a patient with certain kinds of heart disease or a special heart condition, or you've had a joint replaced, taking good care of your teeth and gums is a must - not just for a healthy smile, but also for your overall health --- and the use of Prophylactic Antibiotics is the Standard of Care prior to any dental care or procedures if you are in any of these categories.

Do any of these apply to you?

- Heart surgery with last 6 months
- Pacemaker
- Vascular Surgery with 6 months
- Artificial heart valves
- History of Rheumatic fever
- History of Heart Murmur
- Mitral Valve Prolapse
- Previous bacterial endocarditis
- Systemic pulmonary shunt
- Congenital heart defect
- Acquired valvular dysfunction

Joint Replacements Are Also More Prevalent As Well and need special care and in many cases also the use of Prophylactic Antibiotics. Systemic reasons can also be requirements for Prophylactic Antibiotic Use.

Do any of these apply to you?

- Rheumatoid Arthritis
- Systemic Lupus
- Immunosuppression (systemic or from radiation therapy)
- Malnourishment
- Hemophilia
- HIV infection
- Insulin dependent (Type I diabetes)
- Cancer



Methamphetamine use and habit is becoming a more prevalent problem in today's society. The allure of this drug is that it is cheap, easy to make and the high lasts much longer than crack cocaine (12 hours versus one hour for cocaine). As well as being a potent central nervous system stimulant that can cause permanent brain damage, methamphetamine use has also been associated with severe oral health effects.

Street names for Methamphetamine include: Meth, Speed, Ice, Chalk, Crank, Fire, Glass and Crystal. It can be smoked, snorted, injected or taken orally.

Typically, it is a bitter tasting powder that readily dissolves in beverages. Another common form of the drug is a clear, chunky crystal. This is the form known as "ice" or "crystal meth" and is smoked in a manner similar to crack cocaine. It can also be in the form of small, brightly colored tablets. These pills are often called by their Thai name: Yaba.



These pictures are examples of what Meth Use Can and Does Do The Teeth & Gums

Methamphetamine is a neurotoxin and potent stimulant which causes feelings of pleasure and euphoria - but it can also cause cerebral edema and hemorrhage, paranoia and hallucinations. Short term effects can include insomnia, hyperactivity, decreased appetite, increased respiration and tremors. Long term effects can include psychological addiction, stroke, violent behavior, anxiety, confusion, paranoia, auditory hallucination, mood disturbances, and delusions. Continued use can eventually have an adverse effect on learning skills.



Oral effects can obviously be devastating.;