



LINCOLN DENTAL CARE
1122 E. Lincoln Ave., Suite 114
Orange, CA 92865
Tel: (714) 637 5222

Laser Decontamination

Patient Introduction to Laser Bacterial Reduction

We are constantly learning and striving to advance the standard of patient care in our office. As such, we have recently added a new optional procedure to your routine dental cleaning to help fight periodontal disease.

Gum disease affects over 80% of adults and is a growing epidemic in our society. Understanding of this disease has increased greatly over the last few years. Gum Disease is a bacterial infection in the pockets around teeth. As such, we now, not only treat Gum Disease with removal of mechanical irritants (your regular cleaning), but are also addressing the underlying infection that causes it. With that in mind, we recommend that all of our patients over 20 years old have their teeth decontaminated at every routine cleaning appointment for 3 major reasons:

1. **To kill periodontal disease bacteria** and stop their infections before they cause physical destruction or loss of attachment around your teeth. Studies have shown that Laser Decontamination reduces bacterial counts from billions CFU (colonies forming units) to only hundreds CFU's. It will take up to 6 weeks for bacteria to reach again maximum capacity plateaus.
2. **To biostimulate new blood vessels, collagen, gum attachment and bone formation.**
3. **To reduce or eliminate bacteriemias.** During the normal cleaning process most patients will have some areas that may bleed, this allows bacteria that are present in all of our mouths to flood into the bloodstream and sometimes settle in weakened areas of our body such as a damaged heart valve or artificial knee or hip etc. We pre-medicate those patients that we know have a heart condition or artificial joints with antibiotics so that these bacteria cannot cause harm to these areas. Latest research shows that these oral pathogens have now been linked to a number of other diseases such as cardiovascular disease, rheumatoid arthritis, low birth weight babies, diabetes etc. Anything that we can do to reduce or eliminate these bacteriemias is a positive for our patients.

The laser decontamination process is painless and normally takes about 5-10 minutes. We highly recommend that you take advantage of this service as part of your routine cleaning.

Laser decontamination is a \$25 procedure and is NOT covered by insurance. Unfortunately, insurance coverage usually lags when it comes to the application of leading edge dental technologies into everyday practice. Please ask your dentist if you have any questions regarding this treatment and sign one of the options below:

1. Yes, I consent to have the Laser Bacterial Reduction procedure performed today only.

X _____ Date _____

2. Yes, I consent to have the Laser Bacterial Reduction performed today and at all my routine cleaning appointments in the future.

X _____ Date _____

3. No thank you, I would prefer not to have this procedure performed today, but I may consider it in the future.

X _____ Date _____

4. No thank you, I would prefer not to have this procedure performed today or in the future. Do not ask me again.

X _____ Date _____