

We are so excited that you have considered Children's Dental Village for your child's orthodontic care. At the initial orthodontic visit, a full dental exam will be completed, and diagnostic records of your child will be compiled. Dr. Lepetich will diagnose and prepare an orthodontic treatment plan based on this information, which will be summarized and presented to you and your child by our orthodontic team. Plan for this first visit to take approximately one to one- and-a-half hours to allow time to complete the records, diagnose and present the treatment plan, and answer any questions you may have.

In addition, the total treatment cost and your financial arrangement options will be reviewed with you by our Treatment Coordinator. We are happy to coordinate orthodontic insurance benefits for your child's treatment and do offer payment plans based upon your credit history.

We look forward to working with your child and you to maintain your child's beautiful and healthy smile that will last a lifetime.

What are orthodontic diagnostic records and why are they necessary?

PANORAMIC X-RAY: This x-ray enables the team to view the upper and lower jaws, all the teeth and supporting bone, sinuses and the TMJ joint. It also allows us to see any pathology (i.e. cysts, abscesses, tumors), any extra or missing teeth, any problems related to eruption of teeth (i.e. impacted teeth, wisdom teeth), the angles at which the teeth are coming in and the general health and condition of the roots of the teeth and surrounding bone.

CEPHALOMETRIC X-RAY: This x-ray enables the team to view the entire craniofacial complex (skull, mid-face, upper and lower jaws, and supporting structures) from a profile or side view. This radiograph is important to view the upper and lower jaws in relationship to the cranium and mid-face to aid in diagnosing the orthodontic concern. It also allows us to analyze the relationship of the upper and lower teeth to both upper and lower jaws, mid-face, and cranium.

FACIAL AND ORAL PHOTOGRAPHS: Photographs are needed to document the pre-treatment view of the face and teeth. Facial photographs are taken to study the proportions of the face and detect facial asymmetries. Photographs of the mouth itself allow us to study the color, contour and integratory of the lips, cheek, tongue, and other soft tissue. Stains, discoloration, wear patterns, chips, cracks, etc. of the teeth can be documented as well. In addition, oral photographs serve to document any mal-positions of the teeth from various angles. These are often used in place of the study model impressions.

STUDY MODELS: Impressions and wax bite of the teeth are made so upper and lower plaster study models can be fabricated. These plaster molds of the teeth record the patient's initial bite and position and inclination of all teeth. The need of these study models will be determined by the doctor.