

## **GETTING STARTED**

Our initial orthodontic consultation determines if you or your child is a candidate for treatment. This visit is complimentary and takes approximately one hour to complete. At this visit, the doctor evaluates the patient's condition and decides on continuing future observation visits or pursuing a treatment plan.

If observation visits are needed, we will use this time to track dental development in order to determine future treatment needs. These appointments are typically scheduled every 3-6 months and they are also complimentary.

If a treatment plan is recommended, your doctor will need diagnostic records. This step includes study models of your teeth, radiographs and photos. These records give the doctor the information needed to complete your customized treatment plan.

The doctor will then present and explain in detail your treatment plan along with an estimated timeline and cost. We want you to feel comfortable with the process, so please feel free to ask us any questions you may have.

#### BENEFITS OF ORTHODONTICS

- A more balanced bite
- · Easier to clean teeth
- Correct problems created by harmful habits
- Better jaw alignment and proportion of facial balance, maximizing how teeth fit and look together
- Better appearance of teeth and smile
- Improved self-esteem and confidence

#### ORTHODONTICS ARE FOR ALL AGES

We treat children and adults of all ages who want to improve their overall health and appearance. We offer the latest technologies in metal or clear braces, Invisalign® and other treatment alternatives to help achieve a healthy and beautiful smile.

Orthodontic treatment can be successful at different ages. However, according to the American Association of Orthodontists, it is recommended that your child be seen by an orthodontist as early as age seven. The child may even be seen earlier if a problem is identified by the family dentist, parent or guardian.

#### **BRACES AND ALIGNERS**

We offer traditional braces (with wires and brackets), Invisalign®, and our own proprietary aligner system for minor orthodontic cases, called SmileUp®.

Invisalign® and SmileUp® are alternative treatments to traditional braces that straighten teeth and correct bites using a series of clear aligners. These comfortable aligners are nearly invisible to the naked eye and are removable. SmileUp® provides treatment for simpler cases, typically with shorter treatment times. Treatment options will be discussed at your consultation.





### **ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS**

American Association of Orthodontists
American Dental Association
Southern Association of Orthodontics
Virginia Orthodontic Association
Richmond Dental Society
Virginia Dental Association
MCV Orthodontic Foundation
Diamond Plus Invisalign® Provider



# A nice smile makes all the difference.

## **ORTHODONTICS**







## **WELCOME!**

Our goal is a smile that improves overall health, enhances the comfort, appearance, and self-esteem of our patients.

We are committed to providing you with the highest quality of orthodontic care available. Along with the most advanced methods and materials, we make every effort to maintain a level of comfort and affordability that is right for each patient.

A Team Committed to Excellence.



## Orthodontic Specialists for Children and Adults

Orthodontists are dentists who are educated, trained and specialize in teeth and jaw alignment. With over 20 years of experience, our orthodontists are experts in the latest techniques and trends. They can diagnose and treat all levels of issues and recommend the proper course of treatment, customized to your needs.

Whether you are interested in traditional braces or clear aligners, we have the expertise to give you the best results possible. The orthodontist plans and supervises the treatment of all patients at each appointment. Our technicians work closely with you throughout your treatment by making needed adjustments, as directed by the doctor.

#### DWIGHT V. BUELOW, DDS, MS

ORTHODONTIST AT OUR POWHATAN AND HUGUENOT LOCATIONS

Dr. Dwight Buelow was born in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, and grew up in Australia, Peru, Norway, and Texas. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Princeton University. Dr. Buelow received his degree in dentistry and his Masters in Orthodontics from the Medical College of Virginia (VCU).

#### RICHARD M. MARCUS, DDS, MS

ORTHODONTIST AT OUR ATLEE AND WEST END LOCATIONS

Dr. Richard Marcus was born in Austin, Texas, and raised in Vestal, New York. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Biology at Union College. Dr. Marcus graduated from the Medical College of Virginia (VCU). He earned a Certificate in Orthodontics and a Masters Degree in Orthodontics from the University of Detroit-Mercy.

#### **ALLISON S. PURCELL, DDS**

ORTHODONTIST AT OUR MECHANICSVILLE SPECIALTY CENTER AND IRONBRIDGE LOCATIONS

Dr. Allison Smith Purcell was born and raised in Virginia Beach. She received her Bachelor of Science in Biology from James Madison University. She received her dental degree from the Medical College of Virginia (VCU). She also completed her residency program in orthodontics at the Medical College of Virginia (VCU).



#### **MELANIE SPEARS, DDS, MS**

ORTHODONTIST AT OUR TRI-CITIES AND CHESTER LOCATIONS

A native of Virginia, Dr. Melanie Wexel Spears is a Magna Cum Laude graduate of James Madison University and Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry. She received her orthodontic specialty training and Master's Degree at the University of Florida.

#### TAYLOR VARNER, DDS, MS

ORTHODONTIST AT OUR BRANDERMILL AND MIDLOTHIAN LOCATIONS

Dr. Taylor Varner earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Biomedical Engineering at the University of Virginia. She then went on to receive her dental degree with highest honors at Virginia Commonwealth University and Masters in Orthodontics at the University of Iowa. Dr. Varner is a Board Certified Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics.



## ORTHODONTIC LOCATIONS AND HOURS

PEDIATRIC & ORTHODONTIC
SPECIALTY CENTER

M-F: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, closed for major holidays

POWHATAN

10500 Atlee Station Road, Ashland, VA 23005 T: (804) 550-3324

MIDLOTHIAN (

6510 Harbour View Court, Midlothian, VA 23112 T: (804) 739-6494

2601 Swiftrun Road, Chester, VA 23831 T: (804) 414-2550

#### HUGUENOT PEDIATRIC & ORTHODONTIC SPECIALTY CENTER

1801 Huguenot Road, Midlothian, VA 23113 T: (804) 419-1041

6441 Ironbridge Road, North Chesterfield, VA 23234 T: (804) 743-8189

#### MIDI OTHIAN

14001 Charter Park Drive, Midlothian, VA 23114 T: (804) 417-0245

#### MECHANICSVILLE SPECIALTY CENTER

6000 Brashier Boulevard, Mechanicsville, VA 23111 T: (804) 730-3457

2625 Anderson Highway, Powhatan, VA 23139 T: (804) 403-6036

#### TRI-CITIES

4710 Puddledock Road, Prince George, VA 23875 T: (804) 526-4886

#### WEST END PEDIATRIC & ORTHODONTIC SPECIALTY CENTER

12390 Three Chopt Road, Richmond, VA 23233 T: (804) 351-5432

Please plan for your initial appointment to take one hour. In order to serve you efficiently, scheduled appointments are requested for all consultations and procedures except emergencies.

We will make every effort to be on time for all our patients and ask that you extend the same courtesy to us. If you are unable to keep a scheduled appointment, please notify us in advance so we may offer this time to another patient.

#### INSURANCE

As a courtesy to our patients, we will complete and file insurance forms relative to dental services: however, unlike medical insurance, dental insurance does not usually cover 100% of the charges incurred. We will be happy to determine the benefits allowable under your insurance policy to the best of our knowledge. Whenever insurance requires a predetermination of benefits before the work is started, we will submit to the insurance company a treatment sequence with charges so that you will be completely aware of your coverage. Please note that you need to provide us with your insurance card and photo ID at your initial appointment.

