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DR. BETH SNYDER BETTER DENTISTRY THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

Posted in: **Spotlight**

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May 7, 2010

A trip to the dentist conjures up all sorts of thoughts in one's head. But step inside Dr. Beth Snyder's office in Doylestown, and you might think you've found a day spa instead. Her friendly, attentive staff initially greets you and a gallery of actual patients' smiles adorns the walls. You can indulge in the complementary beverage bar with a personal selection of fresh brewed coffees, enjoy paraffin hand dips and relax on massage pads entertained by flat-screen televisions in each examination room.

Since launching her own practice in 1986, Snyder has dedicated herself to all phases of restorative and cosmetic dentistry, as well as treating the dental-related aspects of conditions such as TMJ, sleep apnea and snoring. She is a graduate of the Temple University School of Dentistry and the Las Vegas Institute for Advanced Dental Studies; a member of the International Association of Comprehensive Aesthetics; and an active member of many other respected and recognized affiliations. Although her curriculum vitae would impress fellow associates and likely require a large binder, her education is the biggest asset to her patients. Her dedication to lifelong learning keeps her on top of the latest innovations, which results in the implementation of technology in her practice. "I'm committed to staying high-tech and ahead of the curve," Snyder says. "I want my patients to think of my office as a place for amazing new techniques, up-to-date thinking and professional quality."

Recently, Snyder added the latest tool to her technological arsenal: the Cadent iTero Digital Scanner Impression System. "In the past, to take an impression, patients had to hold the gooey impression material in their mouths while a mold was formed. It isn't exactly pleasant for most people, and if it wasn't accurate enough, we had to do it all over again," Snyder explains. "Now, we can use the wand to take a digital image from nearly every angle to replicate the patient's mouth. The whole process is cleaner, faster and creates a precision-fit restoration." A series of scans – using 100,000 points of laser lights – are taken, and the system stitches all of them together, allowing a view of patients' teeth from vantages never before possible. The target area, the adjacent teeth, and the bite are reproduced into an accurate, three-dimensional virtual model, creating an accurate impression.

And while the in-office technology might sound impressive, what happens outside Snyder's practice is remarkable. "Once we take the image, it is digitally sent to Israel where it's remastered and perfected," she explains, on the worldwide trip the dental image takes. "From there, it's returned to the states, where a tangible, precision-milled model is produced. It's then sent to our preferred dental lab, which creates the actual crown or porcelain veneer restoration." And no more goo!

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