

## Oral health and dementia

Following on from our articles about good oral health being linked to your general physical health, the October 2007 edition of The Journal of the American Dental Association published data from research into whether poor oral health and tooth loss may contribute to the development of dementia.

Numerous past studies have shown that patients with dementia are more likely than patients without the condition to have poor oral health. Few researchers, however, had examined the relationship from the opposite direction, to determine whether poor oral health actually may contribute to the development of dementia.

Researchers from the University of Kentucky College of Medicine and College of Dentistry studied dental records and cognitive test results from 144 participants aged between 75 and 98 years old. The 'Nun Study' (yes really!) was a study of aging and Alzheimer's disease among the Catholic Sisters of Notre Dame's Milwaukee province.



"Of the participants who did not have dementia at the first examination, those with few teeth (zero to nine) had an increased risk of developing dementia during the study compared with those who had 10 or more teeth," the authors wrote. "It is not clear from our findings whether the association is causal or casual," they wrote, urging further study.

## Cancellation policy

We would just like to clarify the practice cancellation policy which is 2 working days notice to cancel or change an appointment without charge. This allows us time to contact those patients on our cancellation list and give them adequate notice to attend. Please bear in mind there will be a charge for cancellations with short notice or missed appointments.

## Children's dentistry

Here at Kew Dental Care, we are committed to your oral health at every stage and stress the importance of good oral hygiene from an early age.

Ali Jorgenson, our hygienist and dental therapist is happy to advise and treat children of all ages. Ways in which we can protect and prolong the life of your children's teeth is by fissure sealing them, applying fluoride coatings and of course, cleaning and polishing them. Remember, it's never too early for good gum health!

Products we recommend are available to purchase from the practice. These include the latest electric toothbrush, the Oral B Triumph which comes with a remote timer so the less motivated brushers out there can monitor their brushing.

Please don't hesitate to ask if you would like advice on this or any other dental related topic.



## Opening hours

Please note our new opening hours:

Monday	8.00am	to	7.00pm
Tuesday	8.00am	to	1.00pm
Wednesday	8.00am	to	6.00pm
Thursday	8.00am	to	4.30pm
Friday	8.00am	to	1.00pm

Ali is in on Mondays and Thursdays and Karim is in on Wednesdays.



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Articles contained within this newsletter are provided for information only and should not be taken as a recommendation for any specific dental treatment or procedure. For further advice contact the dental practice.

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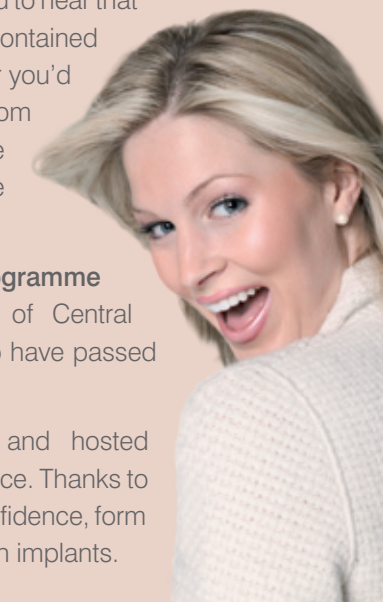
# Smile Update

## Welcome to our fifth newsletter

Thank you for your feedback on previous issues. We are glad to hear that most of you have been reading and enjoying the articles contained in them, please let us know if there is anything in particular you'd like to see, or have more information on. Certainly, from our point of view, the newsletter is a gentle but effective way to communicate new developments not just at the practice, but in the dental world at large.

**David** has completed the first year of his **Masters programme in Restorative Cosmetic dentistry** at the University of Central Lancashire. We know you will be as pleased as he was to have passed his first year exam, only another two to go!

**Karim** has maintained his excellent implant record and hosted a successful **implant seminar** for local dentists at the practice. Thanks to implant technology, losing teeth no longer means losing confidence, form or function so do ask if you would like further information on implants.



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