

SPRING AND FALL INTO A CLEANING

Twice a year unless recommended to come in for additional visits, your regular scheduled check-up is often referred to as a "cleaning", but there is much more to it than that! The technical term is *oral prophylaxis*, which means prevention of oral disease.

One way to prevent oral disease is to remove harmful plaque and tartar (calculus) both above and below the gum line. You may also be given special instructions on brushing or flossing to keep the areas clean where we found significant buildup. Depending on the condition of your mouth a more extensive cleaning may be required.

It's easy to tell which tooth has been "cleaned" in this photo!



Another way to prevent oral disease is by early detection and treatment. During your checkup you will be screened for many potential threats to your oral health, including:

- Cavities
- Gum Disease
- Oral cancer
- Jaw or joint problems

Dr. Markiewicz and the Dental Hygienist is your first-line of defense against oral disease. The hygienists are highly trained professionals who can evaluate your teeth and gums, both visually and with the assistance of x-rays and the Diagnodent Laser to discover threats to your oral or general health. Dr. Markiewicz will review the findings of your hygienist and advise you on any concerns and provide you with the best treatment possible. Cleanings should be scheduled every six months unless sooner treatment is requested.

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