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ADVANCED DENTAL RESTORATIONS

*Keeping Your Smile
Beautiful Today and
Tomorrow*



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Keeping Your Smile Beautiful Today and Tomorrow

Advanced Dental Restorations Dr. Emily Chen

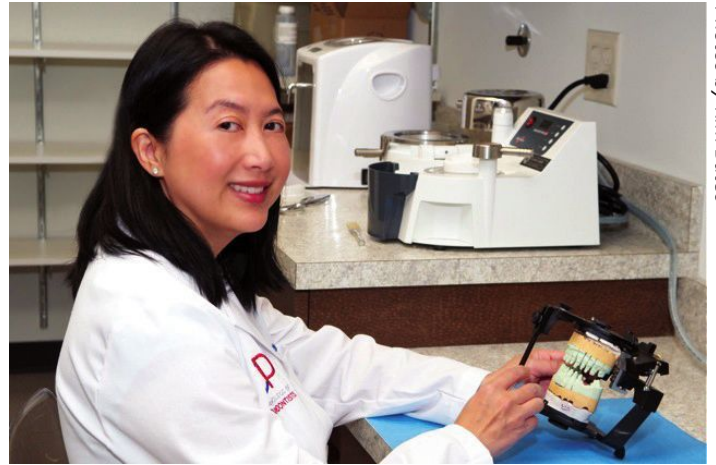
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Hours: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday – Thursday

Dr. Emily Chen has had a life-long interest in health and science, so pursuing her education and career in the medical field was a natural. She was studying neurobiology when a routine visit to her dentist changed the course of her studies and her life.

While she loved the science and research of neurobiology, she felt there was something missing. After speaking with her dentist, she saw how his care changed his patients' physical and emotional wellbeing. He spoke of how he cared for his patients, building relationships and trust with each patient, and the satisfaction he derived by making a difference in their lives. After this visit, Dr. Chen wanted to further explore the field of dentistry and accepted her dentist's offer to shadow him for a day. That day turned into months, and when she saw the impact she could make on a patient's life, she changed her course of study and applied to dental school.



Dr. Chen consulting with a patient.



Photos by Kim Bates

Dr. Chen working at the in-house lab.

While studying to become a dentist, she often would ask difficult questions of the faculty, always trying to find the best possible treatment option for patients. The response she would often receive was, "That's an excellent question, but you need to ask a prosthodontist." A prosthodontist is a dentist who has received an additional three years of specialized training in restoring, reconstructing and replacing teeth. While in her second year of dental school, Dr. Chen was approached by two prosthodontists who individually encouraged her to pursue this specialty, which she did after graduating from dental school.

Today, Dr. Chen is the sole practitioner at Advanced Dental Restorations, which she opened in May 2013. Knowing exactly what she wanted to offer in her practice in regards to patient services and comfort, she designed her office to be state-of-the-art yet comfortable and welcoming. Patients who visit Dr. Chen will appreciate that her office doesn't feel like a dental office at all. A well-appointed leather sofa, soft music and the soothing sounds of a small water fountain adorn the waiting area. However, patients typically don't spend a lot of time in this area as appointments are scheduled with each patient's needs in mind so no one is left waiting for long.

The operatories (exam rooms) have special-ordered chairs that are designed with patient comfort in mind. "A lot of my patients drive a significant distance; some even fly in for treatment, so a comfortable chair is essential," said Dr. Chen. Each operatory has a window, allowing in plenty of natural light, and the lighting throughout the office is color-corrected, mimicking outdoor light.

In addition to standard in-office sterilization procedures, Dr. Chen's instruments are all independently verified by an off-site lab. Patients who are sensitive to bite-wing x-rays because of a strong gag reflex, or because they have a smaller mouth, will appreciate Dr. Chen's panoramic machine, which allows for external bite-wing images to be taken.

Dr. Chen handles a variety of cases, from the simple to a complete mouth restoration, all with compassion and a caring spirit. She noted that patients of all ages benefit from her services, especially as we age. "As we get older, our mouths need more specialized care," she said.

Many older or elderly patients feel that problems with their teeth are simply a part of aging and diminished use of their

mouth is inevitable. Not so, according to Dr. Chen. “No one at any age has to live with mouth discomfort,” she said. Dr. Chen explained that prosthetics don’t last forever. They need maintenance, and in some cases they need to be replaced. “Everything wears down, and as my patients age, we focus a lot on maintenance of existing prosthetics and preventing future problems.”

With her older patients, Dr. Chen’s goal is to help them achieve a high quality of life and confidence in their smile. “How and what we eat is directly affected by our ability to chew. Our overall health can be determined in part by what we eat. Fixing issues that prevent the function and pleasure of eating is my goal.” For those who are less than happy with their smile, Dr. Chen can help. “Everyone needs to be able to socialize and smile, and if your teeth leave you feeling limited in that area, I can help patients to speak and smile with confidence.”

“My favorite part of my job is building relationships with my patients. My goal, especially with my older patients, is to help them keep their natural teeth as long as possible but if that’s not the case, I will make a prosthetic that looks and feels completely natural. We fit the prosthetic to the patient, not the other way around.”

One of Dr. Chen’s patients learned that you’re never too old to have a comfortable mouth or a smile that makes you proud. After spending time with Dr. Chen, the daughter of one of Dr. Chen’s patients told her, “I had never seen my father smile until my wedding day. Thank you for giving me this memory that will last a lifetime.”

DR. CHEN’S CREDENTIALS

- Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in biology from Washington University in St. Louis.
- Bachelor of Science in dentistry and Doctorate of Dental Surgery degrees from the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Dentistry.
- Certificate in Prosthodontics from the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Dentistry’s Department of Restorative Dentistry.
- Instructional rehabilitation department at the Medical College of Georgia/Georgia Regents University. Promoted to assistant professor while maintaining a successful faculty practice.
- ~~Was~~ associate in several dental practices before opening her own in May 2013.



Dr. Chen accepts all major dental insurance plans with claims gladly filed through the office. Payment plans are available as well as access to a third party financing company. Make 2014 the year to stop living with mouth pain or to finally receive the smile you deserve!

