Introducing:

Chief Concern:

Tentative Treatment Plan:

Your Appointment with Dr. McNamara _____ Dr. Bissell _____

Day ______________________________________

Date _____________________________________

Time ____________________________________
What is a Periodontist?

A periodontist is a dentist who has undergone additional training to qualify as a specialist, limiting their practice to periodontics. Periodontics is that branch of dentistry which involves the diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the supporting tissues of the teeth and dental implants.

Tooth supporting tissues
- Gum tissue
- Root surfaces
- Bone that supports teeth or dental implants

Periodontists help patients
- From tooth loss
- Recover from tooth loss by placing tooth supporting dental implants

Your First Visit

Your dentist has referred you to a periodontist for assistance in diagnosis and treatment of periodontal problems you may have, or consultation regarding the possibility of placing dental implants.

In preparation
- We may have already discussed your care to help us understand your concerns
- Your dentist may have provided x-rays useful in diagnosis and treatment planning

At your visit
- We will first obtain general information
- We will need to know about any medical and dental insurance
- We will review your dental and medical history
- We will be especially careful to give attention to any special concerns you have regarding dental treatment
- Complete examination of the supporting tissues of the teeth will be accomplished
- Impressions of the teeth may be made to assist in observing dental structures from different perspectives
- To help learn more about bone support of the teeth or potential implant areas, additional x-rays may be indicated

This information is gathered so that WE (patients and periodontist), can determine how our staff can be of help to you. All indicated treatment will be discussed with you and we invite a frank discussion of fees. Occasionally, an additional consultation appointment may be needed if treatment is complex, or if all necessary information is not available.

Ensure Your Oral Health

Teeth have the potential to be maintained for a lifetime with proper care. The two main causes of tooth loss are decay and periodontal disease.

Periodontal disease facts
- Most adult teeth are lost to periodontal disease, rather than tooth decay
- It affects the supporting structures of the teeth - the gum, root and bone support
- Untreated, it can cause the loss of even cavity-free teeth
- More than half of adults over the age of 18 have the early stages of periodontitis

- At some point in life, about 3 out of 4 adults will be affected by it
- Although common, it can be prevented and treated
- In most cases, it results from inadequate maintenance of the mouth
- Periodontists help by reducing the inflammation associated with loss of tooth support.

Dental Implants

When indicated, periodontists help restore your appearance and function by placing dental implants.

Dental implant facts
- Can last a lifetime with proper care
- Implant placement and the postoperative course are routinely uncomplicated
- Implants can look and feel like natural teeth
- Preserve supporting bone to preserve facial appearance and good oral function
- Implants cannot get decay
- They are usually the most conservative way to replace missing teeth

Preventive care and early intervention are always the best and most economical ways to ensure your oral health. You can avoid the needless loss of teeth by understanding what causes it, learning and practicing good oral health habits, and seeking regular professional care.

Helping You Protect Yourself... from the Needless Loss of Teeth
Providing Modern, Natural Tooth Replacement... through Dental Implants

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