

Caring for Your Teeth and Your Health

You may think we dentists only care about our patients' teeth and gums. Believe me; that's only the beginning of our concern for you.

Did you know that your oral health can have a direct effect on the rest of your health? For years, dentists and physicians have known that gum disease is related to cardiovascular disease, the cause of heart attack and stroke. More recently, inflammation in gum tissue has been shown to be a factor in Alzheimer's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, diabetes, and a growing list of other systemic diseases.

The same inflammation and infection from gum disease has been linked to complications with pregnancy, premature birth, and even with erectile dysfunction and difficulty with conception.

Every person in our office is dedicated to making sure your smile is bright and beautiful and that all your oral tissues are as healthy as possible. But we are always looking for ways to help you maintain optimal health, and we've just learned of an excellent new treatment.

It's the AO Pro family of oral care products. "AO" stands for antioxidants, and the AO Pro products deliver them in a variety of forms including an oral rinse and a cool, pleasant-tasting gel you apply directly to your gums.

Natural Antioxidants

Antioxidants occur naturally in saliva, and they serve as a defense against bacteria and the over-production of violent sulfur compounds (VSC), the main cause of halitosis or bad breath. As we age, the level of antioxidants in saliva decreases, and scientists think this decrease in salivary antioxidants may also lead to oral cancer – as reported in the *Journal of Gerontology – Biological Sciences* 2007.

So, the antioxidants in the AO Pro products help boost the normal salivary antioxidants to prevent bad breath. The AO Pro antioxidants have also been proven to counteract the damage to oral cells that can be caused by infection and inflammation as well as by nicotine, alcohol, tooth bleaching, and certain metals, implants, veneers and other composites used in dental procedures.

In clinical trials here in Dallas, patients with serious and stubborn inflammation from gum disease used AO ProVantage gel along with standard dental treatments. The results were visible, dramatic, and rapid. Some of the most respected dentists and periodontists I know endorse AO ProVantage because they have seen how it helped their patients.

We now apply AO ProVantage by PerioSciences in every cleaning visit, it that good. We think you'll like the AO Pro products. The AO ProVantage gel is easy to apply and we recommend patients use it twice a day as part of their regular routine of brushing and flossing.

At this time, AO ProVantage is only available through dental offices. You may purchase the product now by selecting the link below.

AO ProVantage was developed by PerioSciences, LLC, a Dallas-based company. Their website is www.periosciences.com. Interestingly enough the founder of PerioSciences was the co-founder of SkinCeuticals, a high end, antioxidant based, skin care company, now owned by L'Oreal.

Our concern for you goes way beyond pretty teeth. We do all we can to make sure you have the best overall health possible.

You can learn much more at a scientific website, dentalANTIOXIDANTS.com. You'll find articles and scientific papers about oral and systemic health, about antioxidants, free radicals, oxidative stress, and much more. The site is administered by Texas A&M Health Science Center, Baylor College of Dentistry.