

GRAND RAPIDS + HEALTHCARE PROFILES

Ready for a Better Smile?

Dr. Dykstra and his team take an innovative approach to dental care.

Thirty thousand smiles. That's how many expressions of humor, joy, and love Bradley Dykstra, DDS, and his colleagues have kept healthy and beautiful over four decades of practicing dentistry. That's how many people of all ages have trusted Hudsonville Dental in Hudsonville, Michigan, and sister practices Contemporary Family Dental in Grand Rapids and Grand Haven Smiles PLC. This homegrown practice just keeps growing and with good reason; it combines cutting-edge, innovative dental techniques with extraordinary concern for the health of each and every patient.

"Many people think dentistry is just about teeth: fillings, root canals, crowns," says Dykstra. "But that's just part of what we do. The way I see it, the mouth is the gateway to the body. The health of the mouth—the teeth, tongue, and gums—is essential to the health of the body, and I apply that holistic approach to every patient I see. Taking that a step further, helping a patient achieve a beautiful smile after years of misalignment or discoloration can do wonders for mental health and confidence. There's nothing more satisfying than seeing a smile transformed."

Founded in 1978, soon after Dykstra graduated from the University of Michigan School of Dentistry, Hudsonville Dental is a full-service family practice with expertise in general, cosmetic, and restorative dentistry.

"We are currently seeing an uptick in adults who are dissatisfied with their smiles," says Dykstra. "They may have had braces when they were teens, but over the years, their teeth have shifted; they're ready for a better smile, and we can help with that."

Dykstra and his colleagues get to know these patients well in order to learn exactly what they are unhappy with. Together, they map out a plan to bring back that youthful smile. Porcelain crowns and veneers can be used along with Invisalign® technology—clear, removable aligners that are custom-formed for each patient's mouth—to create a stunning smile.

Throughout his long career, Dykstra has made it his mission to be at the leading edge of dental science. He was one of the first dentists in West Michigan to adopt the use of digital radiography, and today his offices offer patients state-of-the-art digital X-rays

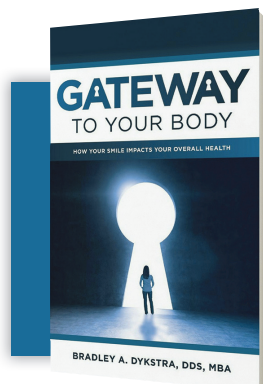


Bradley Dykstra, DDS

and impressions, panorex radiography, 3-D imaging, intraoral cameras, laser treatments, and much more. He and his staff also take the time to screen patients for oral cancer.

"It's so important to catch things before they become serious problems," says Dykstra.

For many people, a trip to the dentist can cause overwhelming anxiety. All three of Dykstra's practices are ready and waiting with a full comfort menu: chair massage, blankets and pillows, nitrous oxide, and a warm, nonjudgmental atmosphere. And patients experiencing a dental emergency—a broken tooth or crown, for example, or an unremitting toothache—can be seen the same day if they call before noon.



Hudsonville, Michigan, dentist Dr. Bradley Dykstra's new book, "Gateway to Your Body: How Your Smile Impacts Your Overall Health," is filled with information about oral health and describes how he built his one-of-a-kind dental practice. Available at Amazon, or request your free copy by visiting drbradleydykstra.com.

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