

Don't Live with Bad Teeth

The Center for Oral Surgery and Dental Implants provides excellent, personalized care and is committed to improving patients' dental health.

Oral surgery. Seldom have two words struck such a nerve with so many. Let's face it; no one looks forward to procedures like tooth extractions or jaw reconstruction. The reputation oral surgery has and the fear many associate with the dental specialty make the regard so many patients have for the Center for Oral Surgery and Dental Implants (COSDI) all the more notable.

Personalized Treatment Planning

With offices in Grand Rapids and Rockford and four highly credentialed and experienced oral and maxillofacial surgeons (plus a staff of exceptional assistants and administrative staff and warm, welcoming offices), COSDI is uniquely positioned to build trusting, caring relationships with clients in need of medical services involving the mouth, jaw, and face.

"Our doctors have more than 75 years of combined experience, and we've been at the Grand Rapids location for 30 years. As oral and maxillofacial surgeons, we are the only healthcare specialists whose practice combines both dental and medical training," says Dr. Emily Van Heukelom, who has been with the practice since 2015. "In fact, a 4-year hospital-based residency program after dental school is required to become an oral and maxillofacial surgeon."

That means that, in addition to surgical experience, all COSDI doctors have been extensively trained in anesthesia and can offer numerous options to anxious patients. From local "numbing" to general anesthesia during

which suitable patients are "put to sleep" for the procedure, sedation options are custom tailored.

"Personalized treatment planning is one of COSDI's differentiators. We work with our patients, their primary care physicians, dentists, and other dental specialists to deliver positive experiences while keeping patients safe and comfortable before, during, and after treatment," Dr. Van Heukelom explains.

Available Procedures

"Whether we are seeing a young patient for removal of wisdom teeth or an older patient who has been living with a dental problem for years, our goal is to both improve dental health as well as enhance the physical appearance of our patients' smiles," says Dr. Van Heukelom.

The practice provides a broad range of oral and maxillofacial services including the extraction of wisdom teeth and other teeth due to disease or pain, the removal of jaw tumors and other lesions of the mouth, and the surgical reconstruction of broken bones in the jaw.

COSDI surgeons are also highly experienced in the placement of dental implants—a specialty of the practice—and utilize such advanced technology as 3D printed surgical guides in their work.

"Modern implant techniques can result in the creation of secure, natural looking teeth in just one day," Dr. Van Heukelom confirms. "Implants act just like natural teeth. They safeguard and preserve bone structure, oral health, and appearance. And when your teeth are healthy, you're healthier, too."



Emily Van Heukelom, DDS



Roseanna P. Noordhoek, DDS



Richard W. Panek, DDS



Julie B. Billups, DDS

Opioid-Free Pain Management

COSDI doctors care about the overall health of their patients and provide the option of an opioid-free experience. The practice's use of long-lasting analgesic and potent anti-inflammatory medications allows patients to resume normal activities in less time and with none of the potential side effects of opioid use.



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