CENTRAL ILLINOIS 🛟 HEALTHCARE PROFILES

Best Practice

Patients needing first-class oral and maxillofacial surgery turn to the venerated practice Capodice, Efaw, Ocheltree & Elger, LLC board-certified, caring, Bloomington-area specialists with a passion for healing.

ecades ago, while still in training, oral surgeon Jack Capodice was treating an elderly woman who needed to have a small growth removed from her tongue. The woman, he recalls, was extremely anxious about the procedure. "I assured her I'd done this many times and that it wasn't a big deal at all. She replied, 'Young man, you might have done this many times, but it's the first time for me, and it is a very big deal.' Her words deepened my compassion for my patients. To this day, every member of this practice understands people seeking our services deserve the best leading-edge oral surgery treatment available anywhere; but, just as important, they deserve kindness and empathy."

Since its founding in 1990, the board-certified oral and maxillofacial surgeons at Capodice, Efaw, Ocheltree & Elger, LLC have offered a full range of oral, dental, and cosmetic surgical services—from wisdom tooth removal and dental implants to bone grafting procedures and corrective jaw surgery. They also diagnose and treat oral cancers and other pathologies. Treatment at the practice requires a dentist's referral.

The surgeons are highly trained in traumatic facial injuries and are on staff at local hospitals to deliver emergency room or in-office treatment for lacerations, knocked-out teeth, fractured facial bones, and more. "Injuries to



FROM LEFT: Dr. David Efaw, Dr. Jack Capodice Jr., Dr. Thomas Ocheltree Jr., Dr. Anthony Elger

the face impart emotional as well as physical trauma to patients," says Dr. Capodice. "We stay involved in our patients' treatment through reconstruction and rehabilitation."

An Alarming Trend

As dental offices become more corporate, many oral surgeons have noticed an uptick in oral surgeries being performed by dentists. "I understand the push to keep patients in-house and not refer them to specialists, but there is a clear cost to patients' health," says Dr. Capodice. "The care they receive is not of the same caliber." Dental implants, for example, are widely recognized as the superior tooth replacement option, he adds, but should always be placed by a board-certified oral surgeon. "In many

cases, dentists complete a weekend course in dental implants. Specialists like us have trained for four to six years; there's no complication we have not managed."

The practice has treated thousands of in-need patients during its biannual free extraction clinic—a tradition begun by the practice's founder, Dr. Stephen Doran. Says Dr. Capodice, "We honor Dr. Doran's memory every day with our continued investment in our patients and community. He had a heart for helping others; we do, too, and that will never change."

The oral and maxillofacial surgeons of Capodice, Efaw, Ocheltree & Elger, LLC are all "hometown boys" with strong roots in the Bloomington-Normal area and are committed to giving back to their community through leading-edge medicine, competitive pricing, and charitable works.

"Our patients are our friends and neighbors," says Dr. Jack Capodice. "They deserve nothing less."



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