

Naturally Beautiful Smiles

More Quickly and Comfortably

BY HUGH FLAX, DDS

Cosmetic smile enhancements are the perfect way to beautify faces and boost confidence. But many people who would love to show off a new and improved smile are apprehensive about doing something about it because of dental anxiety, lack of time or both. Fortunately, there are new breakthroughs that can help. Thanks to technological advances, smile makeovers can be more pleasant and less time-consuming.

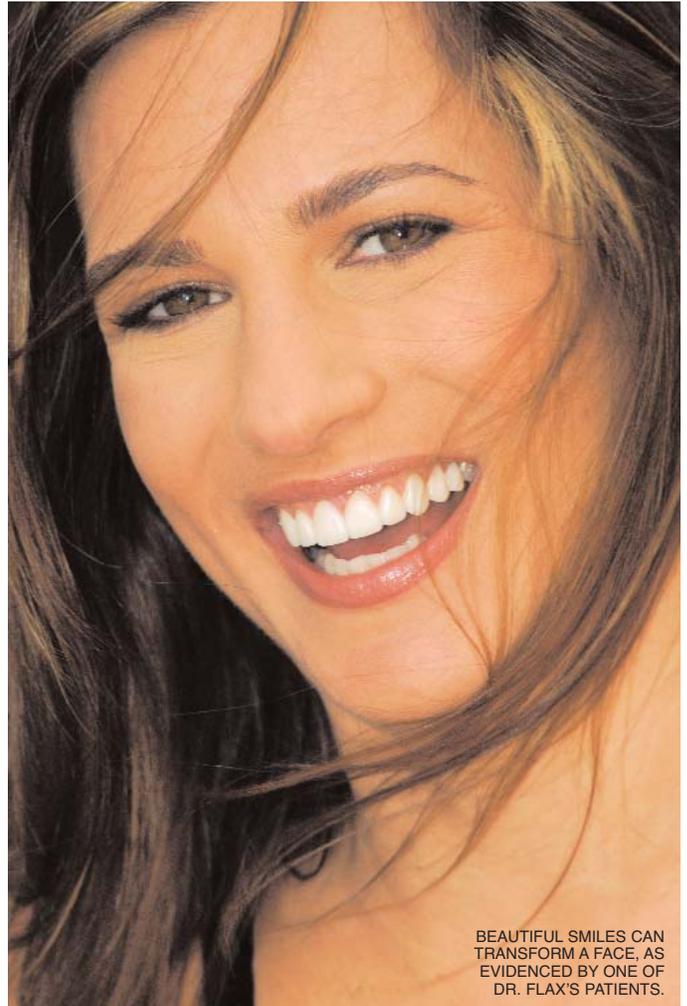
Oral sedation dentistry allows patients to wake-up with a brand new smile after a deeply relaxing experience. It's all accomplished with the help of a safe, short-acting, sedative-hypnotic pill (related to Valium and often prescribed for improved sleeping) that is actually taken at home before the scheduled appointment. Upon arrival at the office, the patient can grab a blanket and sink into a soft Tempurpedic™ mattress custom fitted to the dental chair.

Safety is always paramount. Vital signs are continually monitored by a "pulse-oximeter." Once the patient is completely relaxed, the dental work is done. Most patients will sleep very lightly through their appointment.

Because patients are so totally comfortable, a smile can often be transformed without numerous dental appointments. That is a major time-saver for people with busy schedules. When the appointment is over, patients are given a small cup of fruit juice to revive them. The majority go home and sleep restfully, remembering little of their visit. Best of all, when they look in the mirror, they see a rejuvenated smile beaming back at them.

FOUR WAYS TO THE PERFECT SMILE

- **GO ONE-ON-ONE.** Stick with the same artist throughout the course of treatment to improve the level of communication of expectations and avoid costly mistakes.
- **PREVIEW THE WORK.** See what the new smile will look like before and during care to stay completely in control.
- **CHECK CREDENTIALS.** Make sure the training of the cosmetic dentist reflects a passion for excellence.
- **GET FULL SERVICE.** Find a professional who pays attention to the patient as a whole, as well as the details of the teeth.



BEAUTIFUL SMILES CAN TRANSFORM A FACE, AS EVIDENCED BY ONE OF DR. FLAX'S PATIENTS.

Cosmetic dentistry services have also been greatly enhanced through the use of the **Waterlase MD™**, a revolutionary laser that allows a dentist to cleanse cavities and gently shape the gums and bone around teeth with very predictable results and less discomfort. For a person with a "gummy smile," a conservative laser treatment called the **closed flap technique** represents a vast improvement in care.

The beauty of this type of care is three-fold:

- Patients tend to heal faster because the treatment is minimally-invasive.
- Patients can have their gums lifted without having to see another doctor.
- Patients can enjoy their smiles sooner as their care is often completed in two to three months less time.

It is important to note that these techniques must be performed by a professional who has had years of advanced training and certification in cosmetic dentistry, sedation care and laser technology. Both the skill of the dental technician and the technology itself work in tandem to generate a fresh new smile, while assuring maximum comfort and convenience for the patient during the treatment process.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THESE BREAKTHROUGH TECHNIQUES, AS WELL AS IMPROVING YOUR SMILE, YOUR DENTAL HEALTH, AND YOUR LIFE, CONTACT DR. FLAX'S OFFICE AT 404-255-9080 OR VISIT THE WEBSITE AT WWW.FLAXDENTAL.COM.