# TABLE OF CONTENTS

**JOB TITLES AND FUNCTIONS** .......................................................................................................................................................... 3

**LAB ROOM** .................................................................................................................................................................................. 4

**STERILIZATION ROOM** ................................................................................................................................................................. 5

**EQUIPMENT** .................................................................................................................................................................................. 6
  - X-rays .................................................................................................................................................................................. 6
  - Dental Delivery System ......................................................................................................................................................... 6
  - Assistant Package ............................................................................................................................................................ 6
  - Intra Oral Camera ........................................................................................................................................................... 7
  - Nitrous system .................................................................................................................................................................. 7

**MECHANICAL ROOM** ................................................................................................................................................................. 7
  - Air compressor .................................................................................................................................................................. 7

**INSTRUMENTS, HANDPIECES & ACCESSORIES** ................................................................................................................................... 8
  - Diagnostic Instruments ..................................................................................................................................................... 8
  - Restorative Instruments .................................................................................................................................................. 8
  - Endodontics ................................................................................................................................................................... 9

**INFECTION CONTROL** ............................................................................................................................................................... 10

**SUPPLIES** .................................................................................................................................................................................. 10

**TYPES OF DENISTRY** ............................................................................................................................................................... 11

**MOST COMMON PROCEDURES FOR IMMEDIAENT PATIENTS** ................................................................................................................. 12
  - Exams .................................................................................................................................................................................. 12
  - Radiography ................................................................................................................................................................... 13
  - Hygiene ........................................................................................................................................................................... 14
  - Anesthesia ....................................................................................................................................................................... 15
  - Extractions ....................................................................................................................................................................... 15
  - Fillings ................................................................................................................................................................................ 16
  - Root Canal ........................................................................................................................................................................ 17
  - Dentures ........................................................................................................................................................................... 17
  - Crowns ............................................................................................................................................................................... 18

**TEETH** .................................................................................................................................................................................................. 20
  - Arches .................................................................................................................................................................................. 20
  - Quadrants .......................................................................................................................................................................... 20
TABLE OF CONTENTS cont.

- Primary Teeth ........................................................................................................................................ 20
- Permanent Teeth ..................................................................................................................................... 20
- Wisdom Teeth ......................................................................................................................................... 20
- Tooth Glossary ....................................................................................................................................... 21
- Tooth Chart and Tooth numbering ........................................................................................................ 22
- Tooth Surface Abbreviations ............................................................................................................... 23

DENTAL CHARTING ABBREVIATIONS .................................................................................................. 24
COMMONLY USED TERMINOLOGY ....................................................................................................... 25
**Expanded Duty/Function Dental Assistant** (EDDA/EFDA) – An EDDA/EFDA has received additional training and is legally permitted to do certain dental procedures, in addition to the duties traditionally performed by a dental assistant. Duties delegated to an EDDA/EFDA vary according to the dental practice act in each state, but usually include placing fillings in addition to assisting doctors with exams and other treatment.

**Dental Assistant** (DA) - The DA works chairside with the dentist to ensure a positive experience for the patient while delivering on ImmediaDent’s commitment to exceptional customer service. This position is responsible for maintaining an efficient and effective flow of activity in the back office by providing support to the Area Manager and clinical team on a variety of tasks, including setup and cleanup of rooms, disinfection and sterilization of equipment and instruments, and assisting the doctors during treatment.

**Hygienist** – The primary duties of the dental hygienist include cleaning and polishing teeth, instructing patients in good oral hygiene habits and after care for hygiene-related treatment, and providing other preventive dental care while delivering on ImmediaDent’s commitment to exceptional customer service.

**Lead Patient Coordinator** (LPC) - The LPC is the primary person responsible for managing the overall flow of patient care, operational flow and office management when the Area Manager is not in the practice. The LPC is responsible for gaining patient acceptance of individualized treatment plans prescribed by doctors. The LPC must ensure a positive first impression with patients by providing outstanding service while maintaining an efficient and effective flow of the office.

**Patient Coordinator** (PC) - The PC is the primary person responsible for providing exceptional customer service and ensuring optimal operational flow. The PC welcomes patients into the practice, answers phones, schedules new patients, schedules patients' next visits before they leave the practice, verifies insurance, and communicates wait times.

**Area Manager** (AM) - The AM's primary objective is to ensure the financial success of their reporting ImmediaDent Practices. This position is a part of the ImmediaDent management team with direct responsibility for two to five practices. This position is supported by the LPCs in each practice.

**Regional Director** (RD) - The RD's primary objective is to ensure the financial success of the ImmediaDent Practices. This position is a part of the Samson Dental management team, with responsibility for effective leadership and management of 8 to 12 ImmediaDent Practices.
LAB ROOM

- **Dental Plaster Vibrator**
  - Used to vibrate mixes of plaster and dental stone to remove bubbles prior to pouring an impression.

- **Vac-u-form**
  - Used to fabricate custom bleaching trays and mouth guards.

- **Lathe**
  - Used to adjust and polish appliances (dentures, partials, temporary crowns & bridges).

- **The Pentamix** - Dispenser of Impregum impression material and alginate substitute Position Penta Quick VPS impression material.
  - Used to make molds (impressions) for crowns, bridges, partials, dentures, and dental appliances.
  - Location varies by practice and could also be found on the mobile carts or mounted in an operatory.

- **Electric Slow Speed Handpiece**
  - Used to adjust and trim dentures, impression trays and materials, provisional crowns and bridges, and other dental appliances.

- **Cases**
  - This term is used for anything fabricated by an outside dental laboratory, including dentures, crowns, bridges, custom trays, and mouthguards.
STERILIZATION ROOM

- **Non-sterile area**
  - Where non-sterile instruments (instruments that have been used on a patient or are in bags or cassettes that have been opened) are placed prior to sterilization.

- **Sterile Area**
  - Where clean instruments that have been through the sterilization process are placed.

- **Ultrasonic Cleaner**
  - Instruments are placed in this prior to sterilization to break down any debris left on them.

- **Assistina**
  - Automatic lubricator for high speed handpieces
  - Used prior to sterilizer to ensure instruments are properly lubricated

- **Steam Sterilizers**
  - Statim
    - Runs faster cycles (3min) due to higher pressurization setting. Can accommodate a smaller number of instruments.
  - Autoclave
    - Runs slower cycles (30min). Can accommodate a larger number of instruments.
EQUIPMENT

• **X-rays**
  o **Intraoral Units**
    - This type of machine is used for intraoral x-rays, where the sensor is placed inside the mouth. These x-rays provide a lot of detail and allow the dentist to detect cavities, check the health of the root of the tooth, the bone surrounding the tooth, and the status of developing teeth, and also monitor the general health of the teeth and jawbone.
    - Intraoral x-rays include: periapicals, bitewings and occlusals

  o **Extraoral unit (also known as panorex machine, or “pano”)**
    - This type of machine is used for extraoral x-rays that give a broad, panoramic view of all the teeth and both jaws together in one large image.
    - Pano x-rays are used to look for impacted teeth, monitor growth and development of the jaws in relation to the teeth, and to identify potential problems between teeth and jaws and the temporomandibular joint (TMJ) or other bones of the face.

• **Dental Delivery System**
  o System that houses handpiece house, mechanicals and the air/water system that the clinical staff use when performing patient procedures.

• **Assistant Package**
  o System that houses suction and the air/water system and is used by the dental assistant.
EQUIPMENT cont.

- **Intraoral Camera**
  - This camera has a built-in light source and allows us to zoom in on a single tooth with 25 times magnification. It can take still photos, or be used to give the patient a “video tour” of their mouth. The images are displayed on a monitor, so the patient will be able to see problems such as worn or broken fillings, cracked teeth, plaque deposits, cavities next to fillings, and excessive wear. It is an excellent tool for educating patients and helping them understand the care they need.

- **Nitrous system**
  - Device for delivering inhaled nitrous oxide (laughing gas) and oxygen to patients
  - Nitrous oxide (N2O) is used to reduce or control patient anxiety
  - N2O is completely reversible; the patient should be able to drive after treatment
  - Ohio – qualified personnel has to stay with the patient at ALL times

MECHANICAL ROOM

- **Air compressor**
  - Delivers compressed air to the dental delivery unit to operate the handpieces

- **Vacuum**
  - Supplies suction to all operatories
INSTRUMENTS, HANDPIECES & ACCESSORIES

- **Diagnostic Instruments**
  - Mouth mirror
    - Provides indirect vision, reflects light, retracts lips, cheeks and tongue
  - Explorer
    - A pointed instrument primarily used for detecting cavities and checking work
  - Cotton Pliers
    - Used to pick up, carry and/or place items within the mouth (e.g., cotton pellets, cotton rolls, matrix bands, etc.).
  - Periodontal Probe
    - Measures the pocket depth of the gingival sulcus (assesses gum disease)
  - Excavator
    - A sharp, curved, spoon-like instrument used to remove decayed dentin and debris; a versatile instrument

- **Restorative Instruments**
  - Composite Instrument
    - Used to carry and shape the composite resin material to the space left after the decay is removed.
  - Handpiece
    - The "drill." These are the primary instruments that doctors use for patient procedures. Different burs are attached to the handpieces for various procedures.
      - Low-speed handpiece (straight handpiece) – Used in finishing, polishing, and contouring procedures. Also used for cautious decay removal and fine finishing of the cavity preparation.
• **High-speed Handpiece** – Operates on air pressure and is used during restorative procedures to cut the tooth structure

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• **Ultrasonic Scaler**
  - An ultrasonic instrument with a tip for supplying high-frequency vibrations. Used to remove calculus from the teeth and bits of inflamed tissue from the walls of the gingival crevice. Used in combination with the hand scaler for dental cleanings (prophies) and non-surgical periodontal treatment (scaling and root planing).

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• **Bur**
  - A rotary cutting instrument that attaches to the handpiece and is made of steel or tungsten carbide, supplied with cutting heads of various shapes for shaping the tooth. Also used on bone during some tooth extractions.

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• **Endodontics**
  - **Sybron/Dentsply Endodontic Motor**
    - The endo motor and endo handpieces are used with endo files when performing root canal treatment. These tools are used to remove the dental pulp (nerves, vessels, and connective tissue) from the root canals and to shape the root canals.

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• **Elements Unit/A & B System**
  - Used to fill root canals (via two steps) after the canals are cleaned and shaped.
INFECTION CONTROL

- Infection control efforts are aimed at preventing the transmission of disease and reducing the number of pathogens that are present.
  
  o Procedures:
    - Disinfect the operatory after each patient
    - Cover surfaces with disposable plastic prior to each patient visit
    - Sterilize instruments after each use

  ______________________________________________________________________________________

  o Personal protection includes:
    - Masks
    - Protective eyewear (glasses or goggles)
    - Gloves
    - Disposable gowns

  ______________________________________________________________________________________

SUPPLIES

- Ordered through Henry Schein
- Familiarize yourself with your local representative and the online ordering process
- Supplies are inventoried in various locations throughout the practices
TYPES OF DENISTRY

- **General**
  - Encompasses all aspects of preventing, treating and controlling dental disease.

- **Oral Surgery**
  - Involves the surgical treatment of diseases, injuries, and defects of the oral and maxillofacial regions. ImmediaDent doctors are performing oral surgery when they do extractions and alveoloplasty.

- **Endodontics**
  - The diagnosis and treatment of diseases and injuries of the pulp and associated structures. The common term for the most frequent endodontic procedure is “root canal.”
    - *We do many root canals at ImmediaDent.*

- **Periodontics**
  - Involves the diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the gums and supporting bone.

- **Prosthodontics**
  - The restoration and replacement of natural teeth with artificial constructs, such as crowns, bridges, and dentures.
    - *We do many such restorations at ImmediaDent.*

- **Orthodontics**
  - The diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of malocclusions of the teeth and associated structures, generally with braces.
    - *We do not do orthodontics at ImmediaDent.*
MOST COMMON PROCEDURES FOR IMMEDIAENT PATIENTS

**refer to Caesy videos for more information**

- Exams
  - Comprehensive Exam (Recommended whenever possible)
    - Begins with the patient providing details of their medical and dental history, including a listing of all current medications.
    - A thorough oral cancer screening, both visually and digitally (using the fingers), checking all of the lymph nodes, lips, tongue and the insides of the mouth and cheeks.
    - A series of diagnostic x-rays that provide a comprehensive view of the teeth and condition of the supporting bone. (includes: FMX and pano)
    - A periodontal examination, which includes a thorough screening and assessment of the gums and bone level – to check for any signs of periodontal (gum) disease.
    - An occlusal exam, to check for bite problems (underbite, overbite, crossbite), worn teeth, and jaw problems, such as TMJ.
    - Additionally, a meticulous tooth-by-tooth check to identify cavities, examine prior treatment and restorations and the current condition of each, locate any chipped, cracked or missing teeth, and identify any treatment that needs to be performed.

- Limited Exam
  - A limited oral evaluation (or problem focused exam) is an evaluation that is limited to a specific oral health problem or complaint. Typically, patients receiving this type of evaluation present with a specific problem and/or dental emergency, such as pain, trauma, or acute infection. A limited exam may require interpretation of information acquired through additional diagnostic procedures. Definitive procedures may be required on the same date as the evaluation.
  - A series of diagnostic x-rays focusing on the reported problem that provide a limited view of the teeth and condition of the supporting bone. (includes: Pano and PA)
**MOST COMMON PROCEDURES FOR IMMEDIADENT PATIENTS cont.**

**Radiography**

- **Full mouth series (FMX or FMS)**
  - A full mouth series is a complete set of intraoral x-rays taken of a patient’s teeth and surrounding bone. The full mouth series is usually comprised of 18 images, but may be as few as 14 if teeth are missing.

- **Panoramic**
  - Allows the dentist to view the entire dentition and related structures on a single large film. The images on a panoramic film are not as well defined or clear as the images on intraoral films.

- **Bitewings (BWX)**
  - Shows images of the crowns of the teeth in both arches on one film. A bitewing survey usually consists of four films in adults, two in children. They are the best way to diagnose cavities between teeth.

- **Periapical (PA)**
  - Shows images of the entire length of the tooth, plus 3 to 4 mm beyond the root apices. Used to diagnose abscesses and other conditions around the root area of the teeth. Also used to locate unerupted teeth.

- **Occlusal**
  - Shows an entire arch in one view. Taken from directly above or below the teeth and is used to locate extra teeth, teeth that have not yet broken through the gums, jaw fractures, mouth cysts, abscesses, or growths.
** MOST COMMON PROCEDURES FOR IMMEDIADENT PATIENTS cont. **

**refer to Caesy videos for more information**

- **Hygiene**
  - **Prophy/Prophylaxis**
    - Commonly known as a “cleaning.” The complete removal of calculus, debris, stain, and plaque from the teeth. Patients should get routine “cleanings” every 6 to 12 months.
    - Calculus is a hard, mineralized deposit adhered to the tooth surface.

- **Periodic Exam**
  - An semi-annual or annual exam that allows the dentist to look for any changes associated with the teeth or oral tissues.

- **SRP (Scaling and Root Planing)**
  - Is considered the primary non-surgical treatment for periodontal diseases. Involves the removal of calculus and diseased tissue from the crown and root surfaces of teeth.

- **Atridox**
  - A locally applied antibiotic that is placed gently below the gum line into periodontal pockets where bacteria thrive and cause infection. *A Zila product.*

- **Clinpro 5000**
  - A toothpaste that delivers far more fluoride than conventional over-the-counter toothpastes. It helps strengthen enamel and repairs early areas of decay. *A 3M product.*
**Most Common Procedures for Immediadent Patients cont.**

**Refer to Caesy videos for more information**

- **Anesthesia**
  - **Topical Anesthesia**
    - A procedure in which a highly concentrated anesthetic gel is applied with a cotton swab directly to the area where a local anesthetic injection is to be given. This provides a temporary numbing effect to the surface tissue.
    - The most common type of application, it can lessen or even eliminate the initial “pinch” from an injection.

- **Local Anesthesia**
  - The most frequently used form of pain control in dentistry, it involves the injection of a local anesthetic solution.
    - Used to block or reduce any associated pain that may take place during a dental procedure.

- **Extractions**
  - **Reasons for Extractions**
    - Pain, severe tooth decay, or infection.
    - Severe gum disease that affects the supporting bone and gum tissue.
    - Insufficient space for wisdom teeth (impacted wisdom teeth).
    - In preparation for orthodontic treatment (braces)
    - Extra teeth which are blocking other teeth from coming in.

- **Types of Extractions**
  - **Simple**
    - Removal of a tooth from its socket in the bone using basic instruments, such as luxators, elevators, and forceps.

  - **Surgical**
    - Removal of a tooth that cannot be removed in a simple, non-surgical manner due to extensive decay, divergent root anatomy, and/or position in the bone. Requires cutting bone and/or sectioning of the tooth to be able to extract it.
**MOST COMMON PROCEDURES FOR IMMEDIADENT PATIENTS cont.**

**refer to Caesy videos for more information**

- **Types of Extractions cont.**
  - Surgical Removal of Residual Tooth Roots
    - Some teeth are so decayed that only a bit of root remains. A surgical technique is required to remove them from the jaw bone.
  - Third Molar (Wisdom Teeth) Extraction
    - Full Bony
      - A full bony impaction means that 50% or more of the crown of the tooth is covered with bone. In many cases, the entire tooth is covered by bone.
    - Partial Bony
      - A partial bony impaction means that less than 50% of the crown of the tooth is covered with bone. (There has to be some portion covered in bone; it can't be 0%.) In some cases, the tooth may even be partially visible when looking in the mouth.
  - Alveoloplasty
    - Smoothing/contouring of the jaw bone following extractions in order for a prosthetic appliance (usually a denture or partial denture) to be properly fitted and worn.

- **Fillings**
  - Materials
    - Composite Resins
      - A tooth-colored restorative material used for filling teeth. Provides a result that blends in with the color of the teeth.
    - Amalgam
      - An alloy of silver, tin, copper, and mercury used for dental fillings.
MOST COMMON PROCEDURES FOR IMMEDIADENT PATIENTS cont.

**refer to Caesy videos for more information**

- **Root Canal**
  - What is a Root Canal:
    - Removal of the pulp (nerve, blood vessels, and connective tissue) within the tooth’s center (pulp chamber) and root canals, and the filling of that space with an inert material. Human teeth may have one to four root canals, depending on the anatomy of the tooth.

  - Common Reasons for Root Canals
    - Pain, infection, inflammation, and trauma are the most common reasons a tooth would need root canal therapy.
      - Tooth decay invades the tooth, penetrating through both enamel and dentin and into the pulp.
      - A pulp infected with bacteria from decay leads to an abscess.
      - Trauma exposes the pulp due to fracture or damages the nerve and vessels as they exit the root.
      - A tooth is slowly dying, due to aging or past trauma that did not result in the need for treatment at the time of injury.

- **Dentures**
  - Partial
    - Removable lab made prosthesis to replace some missing teeth in an arch
  - Complete
    - Removable lab made prosthesis to replace ALL missing teeth in an arch
  - Immediate
    - This is a denture that is placed immediately after the extraction of the patient’s remaining teeth. During the healing process, the denture serves as a compress and bandage to protect the surgical area. Not a good long-term choice.
    - An immediate denture can help spare a patient from the embarrassment of being without any teeth.
      - *Not for all patients, as it can be an expensive option*
**MOST COMMON PROCEDURES FOR IMMEDIADENT PATIENTS cont.**

**ref to Caesy videos for more information**

- **Crowns**
  - A crown is a type of dental restoration which completely covers and encircles a tooth or rests on a dental implant. Crowns are most often needed when a large part of the tooth is missing due to decay or fracture. Crowns are cemented to the tooth using dental cement. Crowns can be made from many materials, and are considered *indirect restorations* because they are created outside the mouth.

- **Buildup and Post**
  - A buildup is needed when there is insufficient tooth structure on which to place a crown. It is usually created using composite. Posts are used in teeth with root canals to help hold the buildup in place. The post is placed partway down a root canal and cemented into place. The buildup is then created around the part of the post that projects out from the root.

- **Types of Crowns**
  - **Temporary**
    - A temporary crown is a provisional, short-term restoration used to restore chewing function, protect the remaining tooth, and prevent damage to the gums after a tooth has been prepared for a permanent crown. It is made directly in the mouth and is not as strong and does not fit as well as the permanent crown.
  - **Porcelain/ceramic crowns**
    - Milled crowns: Bruxir, DSmz (zirconia); e.max CAD (lithium disilicate)
      - Solid substance crowns that are milled by a machine from a solid block of material that is uniform in color.
    - Non-milled porcelain/ceramic crowns
      - These crowns are not milled and require a dental laboratory technician's expertise to make them. They can be made of a variety of tooth-colored materials, or combinations of tooth-colored materials. The shading of these crowns can be customized by the lab tech.
  - **Porcelain-fused-to-metal crown (PFM)**
    - PFMs have a metal core on which a veneer of porcelain is fused in a high heat oven. The metal provides strong compression and tensile strength, and the porcelain gives the crown a tooth-like appearance that is very esthetic. A variety of metal alloys can be used for the core. The porcelain can be color matched and shaded by the laboratory technician to blend with the adjacent teeth.
**refer to Caesy videos for more information**

- Types of Crowns 
  - Full Cast Crown 
    - Full cast crowns are made entirely of metal through a casting process. A variety of metal alloys containing precious metals and base metals can be used to make the crown. The most common is referred to as a **full gold crown (FGC)**, although even this type of crown is actually composed of a blend of different metals. The ADA categorizes metals as **high noble alloys**, **noble alloys**, and **predominantly base alloys** depending on the content of precious metals such as gold, platinum, palladium, and silver.

- Fixed Bridge (also known as a fixed partial denture) 
  - is a dental restoration used to replace a missing tooth. This is usually done by attaching a false tooth between crowns on the teeth on either side of the missing tooth space.

- **Additional Crown Notes:**
**TEETH**

- People have two sets of teeth in their lives, the primary teeth (also called the baby, milk or deciduous teeth) and the permanent teeth (also called the adult or secondary teeth). Children have 20 primary teeth; they are replaced by the permanent teeth by about age 13. Adults have 32 permanent teeth.

- **Arches**
  - Maxillary Arch (upper)
    - Teeth that are set on the maxilla bone
    - The maxilla is fixed to the skull
  - Mandibular Arch (lower)
    - Teeth that are set on the mandible bone
    - The mandible moves, creating a biting force toward the maxillary arch

- **Quadrants**
  - Dental arches are divided in two halves by an imaginary line called the midline (median line). The arrangement of the teeth is identical in each quadrant and each contains 8 permanent teeth. The quadrants are commonly referred to as upper right (UR), upper left (UL), lower right (LR), and lower left (LL).

- **Primary Teeth**
  - Babies are born with no visible teeth
  - The teeth form inside the jaws. The 20 primary teeth (also called baby teeth or deciduous teeth) begin to erupt (poke through the gums) when a baby is about 5-6 months old. This process continues until all primary teeth are erupted, usually by 2 years old.

- **Permanent Teeth**
  - Primary teeth fall out and are replaced by permanent teeth (also called the adult teeth). In addition, permanent molar teeth erupt in the jaws behind the primary molar teeth. This happens over time, usually from the ages of 6 to 14 years old. When both primary and permanent teeth are present, it's called a *mixed dentition*.

  As a permanent tooth forms in the jawbone, it pushes on the root of the primary tooth above it, causing the root to dissolve. The primary tooth then becomes loose and falls out. The permanent tooth erupts and fills the space.

- **Wisdom Teeth**
  - Wisdom teeth (also called the third molars) are molars that usually erupt from the ages of 17 to 21.
• **Tooth Glossary**
  
  - **Canine (also called cuspid)** - the "eye" tooth, it has a single point and a single root. Cuspid teeth are used to hold and tear food. Canine means "of or like a dog."

  - **Cementum** - a layer of tough, yellowish, bone-like tissue that covers the root of a tooth. It helps hold the tooth in the socket.

  - **Crown** - the part of the tooth covered by enamel. The "clinical crown" is the visible part of a tooth.

  - **Dentin** - the hard but porous part of the tooth located under both the enamel and cementum of the tooth. Dentin is harder than bone.

  - **Incisor** - a front tooth with a narrow edge. There are 4 incisors in each arch. Incisors are used to cut food. An incisor has 1 root.

  - **Molar** - a wide, flat tooth found in the back of the mouth. Molars grind food during chewing. Molars in the upper arch have 3 roots; molars in the lower arch have 2 roots.

  - **Nerves** - nerves transmit signals (conveying messages like hot, cold, or pain) to and from the brain.

  - **Periodontal membrane/ligament** - a network of short, fibrous ligaments covering the tooth root that go from cementum to bone. The PDL holds the tooth in place.

  - **Premolar (also called bicuspid)** - the type of tooth located between the canine and the molars. Most premolar teeth have 1 root; the upper 1st premolar has 2 roots. Premolars have two points (cusps) at the top.

  - **Pulp** - the fleshy center of the tooth that contains blood vessels, nerves, and connective tissue. The pulp nourishes the dentin.

  - **Root** - the anchor of a tooth that extends into the jawbone. The number of roots ranges from one to four.
• Tooth Chart and Tooth numbering

Diagram of the Tooth Numbering System
(viewed as if looking into the mouth)

Central Incisor
Lateral Incisor
Cuspid
1st Bicuspid (Bi-Rooted)
2nd Bicuspid (Single Rooted)

1st Molar
Tri-Rooted
d
2nd Molar
3rd Molar

Maxillary Arch (Upper Jaw)

Buccal (Facial) Surface

Labial Surface

Mesial Surface
Distal Surface

Mandibular Arch (Lower Jaw)

Occlusal Surface

Top Right (TR) Quadrant I
Top Left (TL) Quadrant II

Bottom Right (BR) Quadrant IV
Bottom Left (BL) Quadrant III

Incisal Surface

Medial Line

Adult Dentition = Permanent teeth 1-32
Child Dentition = Primary teeth A-T
Wisdom Teeth = 1, 16, 17, and 32
Tooth Surface Abbreviations

- Tooth surfaces are important in order to accurately describe areas of the tooth that are restored or decayed. When entering dental procedure information into the computer, three items are required: tooth number, surfaces, and the ADA's CDT code for procedure (fees are calculated based on these codes and negotiated contracts with various vendors).

- Mesial (M)
  - The surface (and direction) that faces the midline of the arch and follows the curvature of the dental arch

- Distal (D)
  - The surface (and direction) that faces away from the midline of the arch and follows the curvature of the dental arch

- Occlusal (O)
  - The biting surface of posterior teeth, or to something relating to this surface or position

- Buccal (B)
  - The side of a tooth that is adjacent to (or the direction towards) the inside of the cheek. This term is only used on posterior teeth (molars and premolars).

- Lingual (L)
  - The side of a tooth adjacent to (or in the direction toward) the tongue or palate, respectively

- Facial (F)
  - The side of a tooth that is adjacent to (or the direction towards) the inside of the cheek or lips. Only used on anterior teeth (also known as labial).

- Insical (I)
  - The biting edge of anterior teeth or toward that direction on the tooth
DENTAL CHARTING ABBREVIATIONS

- **BOP**: bleeding on probing
- **CRN**: crown
- **PFM**: porcelain fused to metal crown
- **FGC**: full gold crown
- **FPD**: fixed partial denture (i.e. bridge)
- **RPD**: removable partial denture
- **PUD**: partial upper denture
- **PLD**: partial lower denture
- **CUD**: complete upper denture
- **CLD**: complete lower denture
- **FMX**: full mouth radiographic series
- **BWX**: bitewing radiograph
- **PA**: periapical radiograph
- **PANO**: panoramic radiograph
- **Tx**: treatment
- **Dx**: diagnosis
- **Px**: prognosis
- **Rx**: prescription
- **NKA**: no known allergies
- **NKDA**: no known drug allergies
- **PRN**: "as needed," from the Latin pro re nata
- **Epi**: epinephrine
- **Pre-Med**: premedication
- **AM**: amalgam
- **C**: composite
- **RCT**: root canal therapy
- **EXT**: extraction
- **FX**: fracture
- **I&D or I/D**: incise and drain
- **Hist**: history
- **HP**: handpiece
- **NSAID**: non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug
- **Px**: prophylaxis
- **CPR**: cardiopulmonary resuscitation
- **UCR**: usual, customary and reasonable
- **MSDS**: material safety data sheet
- **HIPAA**: Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
- **ADA**: American Dental Association
COMMONLY USED TERMINOLOGY

Apex: The end of the root tip. Each root has an apex.

Arch: The dental arch refers to the teeth in a particular jaw. There is the upper (maxillary) arch and the lower (mandibular) arch. The teeth in an arch line up in a curved shape inside the mouth.

Bone loss: A decrease in the amount of bone that supports a tooth or implant.

Bridge: This is a prosthesis that replaces a missing tooth or teeth with artificial ones, held in place by attaching it to natural teeth or implants. The term "bridge" refers to a fixed prosthesis that is not removable.

Caries: The official dental term for tooth decay. It is caused by bacteria.

Cavity: Missing tooth structure, usually as a result of caries.

Crown: A crown is a type of dental restoration which completely covers and encircles a tooth or rests on a dental implant.

Decay: Commonly used term for dental caries; the decomposition of tooth structure.

Dental erosion: Dental erosion is the thinning or wearing away of the outer hard surface of a tooth (the enamel).

Denture: A prosthesis (usually removable) that replaces missing teeth. A denture can replace all the teeth in an arch (complete dentures) or fewer than all (partial denture).

Enamel: The hard calcified tissue covering the dentin of the crown of the tooth.

First molars: These are the molars (big teeth that you chew with) that are closest to the front of your mouth.

Fluoride: A mineral that helps prevent tooth decay (cavities).

Gingival: Pertaining to the gums.

Gingivitis: Inflammation of gum tissue without loss of connective tissue.

Gum disease: A disease that causes gums to be red, swollen and bleed easily. If not treated, gum disease can get worse and damage the tissues that hold the teeth in place. Gingivitis and periodontal disease are two forms of gum disease that differ in their severity.

Implant: An artificial tooth root that is surgically placed in the jaw bone. The dentist can put an artificial tooth (or crown) on the implant. Multiple implants can be used to hold bridges or dentures in place.
**Oral hygiene:** Activities patients do to keep their mouths clean. These include brushing the teeth, cheeks, tongue and dentures, as well as using dental floss. It also includes using mouthwash and having a dentist or hygienist clean the teeth.

**Periodontal disease:** Also known as gum disease, it is caused by the bacteria in plaque. When plaque is not removed, the toxins produced by the bacteria cause the gums to become inflamed and bleed easily.

**Periodontitis:** A severe form of periodontal (gum) disease which can lead to tooth loss.

**Phasing:** At ImmediaDent, “phasing” refers to the grouping of individual treatment procedures or steps into a sequence of different appointments, with the first appointment being Phase 1, the second appointment Phase 2, and so on.

**Plaque:** A soft, sticky, thin layer of bacteria that continuously forms on the teeth.

**Primary teeth:** This is the first set of teeth that you get when you are a child. These are also called deciduous teeth or, sometimes, baby teeth.

**Prophylaxis:** Removal of plaque, calculus and stains from the tooth structures. Usually called a prophy or teeth cleaning, this procedure is performed in dental offices.

**Pulp:** The blood supply, nerves, and connective tissue for the tooth. The pulp is found in the pulp chamber and root canals.

**Quadrant:** One of the four equal sections into which the dental arches can be divided. It begins at the midline of the arch and extends to the last tooth.

**QSI:** ImmediaDent has selected Quality Systems Incorporated (QSI) as the provider of their practice management software (QSI Dental Web). This software combines electronic dental records with additional practice management tools to create a company-wide solution for managing patient information, charts, appointments, insurance and billing.

QSIDental Web isn’t like traditional software with program disks and huge computers. Instead, QSIDental Web is software offered as a service with the resources provided completely, safely and securely via the Internet.

**Radiograph:** A picture taken of the teeth and bones of the body using x-ray radiation. Also commonly referred to as an x-ray.

**Root canal treatment:** The removal of the pulp (nerve, blood vessels, and connective tissue) within the tooth’s center (pulp chamber) and root canals, and the filling of that space with an inert material.
COMMONLY USED TERMINOLOGY cont.

**Sealant:** A thin plastic coating that is put on the occlusal (chewing) surface of molars and premolars. Sealants harden and keep food from getting trapped in the narrow crevices of these teeth surfaces. Sealants help prevent cavities.

**Staining:** Discoloration of tooth surfaces. This can happen as the result of injury, genetics, smoking, certain medications, and drinking coffee or tea. Most teeth become stained with age.

**Temporomandibular joint disorders:** The problems in the jaw joints (TMJs) that can cause pain or prevent the proper opening and closing of the jaw. Also called TMD.

**Tooth decay:** A commonly used term for dental caries. A single area of tooth decay can also be referred to as a "cavity."

**Tooth extraction:** The removal of a tooth from the bony socket and surrounding gums.

**Treatment Plan:** A sequence and schedule of procedures and appointments designed to restore, step by step, a patient's oral health.

**Unerupted:** A tooth that has not pushed through the gumline.

**Veneer:** Thin, custom-made shells crafted of tooth-colored materials designed to cover the front side of teeth. An analogy would be press-on fingernails, but for teeth.

**Whitening:** Any processes that will make teeth appear whiter. It can be achieved with a bleaching or non-bleaching product. Whitening options range from in-office procedures to whitening toothpastes.

**Wisdom teeth:** A common term for third molars. They are the last teeth to erupt, if they erupt at all. Normal eruption age is 17-23 years.