



Maryland Edition

June 2023

Special Focus...

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Management & Rehabilitation

Featured Professionals





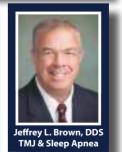
Winters Chiropractic

Pain Management











In Our Next Edition, Meet Your

LOCAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Biographical Profiles of Local Doctors & Practitioners

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HAIR LOSS IN WOMEN







Science Meets Compassion





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LOCAL DOCTORS & ARTICLES at YOURHEALTHMAGAZINE.NET

New Technology (2)



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Revolutionizing Whiplash Diagnosis

The Power of Weight-Bearing Open MRI and Digital Motion X-Rays

Submitted by Washington Open MRI

Whiplash is a common injury that occurs in over 90% of all auto accidents. It happens when the head is suddenly jerked back and forth, which can cause damage to the soft tissues in the neck. Unfortunately, most people (90%+!) who suffer from whiplash don't even realize it. And for those who do, the diagnosis is often missed or misdiagnosed. This unfortunately leads to long-term, permanent damage and disability with no compensation.

However, there is hope! Thanks to modern medical technology, we now have access to tools like weight-bearing open MRI's and digital motion x-rays (DMX) that can help detect and diagnose whiplash with greater accuracy.

Weight-bearing open MRI's are a game-changer because they allow patients to be scanned while standing upright. This means that doctors can get a more accurate picture of what's going on with the spine, particularly in cases where whiplash has caused damage to the ligaments or other soft tissues. And because the patient is in a natural weight-bearing position, the scan can capture the full range of motion and flexion, which is crucial for accurate diagnosis.

But that's not all. Weightbearing open MRI's are also more comfortable for patients. They're less claustrophobic than traditional MRI machines, and patients can watch TV or even have a loved one in the room with them during the scan.

Digital motion x-rays, or DMX, are another tool that can

help diagnose whiplash. Unlike traditional xrays and MRIs, which are designed to capture images of a patient who is standing still, DMX captures images of the spine in motion. This is important because, as we mentioned earlier, the symptoms of whiplash often present themselves when the patient moves their neck. With DMX, doctors can see the full extent of the damage and now develop a more accurate treatment plan.

The benefits of these technologies cannot be overstated. Not only do they provide a more accurate diagnosis, but they also help doctors develop better treatment plans. This means that patients who suffer from whiplash are more likely to receive the care they need to recover fully and avoid permanent damage.

But here's the problem: many

people are unaware of these technologies, or they don't know where to go to receive them. That's why it's so important to spread the word. If you or someone you know has been in an auto accident and is experiencing neck pain or other symptoms of whiplash, it's essential to seek out a healthcare provider who offers weight-bearing open MRI's and DMX.

Remember, whiplash is a serious injury that can cause long-term, permanent damage. But with the help of modern medical technology, we can improve diagnosis and treatment outcomes.

So let's spread the word and encourage everyone to learn more about weight-bearing open MRI's and DMX. Together, we can make a difference and help more people avoid the permanent impairment caused by whiplash.

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SERVING MARYLAND & VIRGINIA Since 1990

Your Health Magazine is on a mission. There are far too many people, insured or not, who do not go to the doctor when they should, and in millions of cases, don't know who they should go to, or why.

People are encouraged to buy a new house, car, cell phone or big screen TV, and those companies make themselves very visible and their products easily attainable.

Information about, and from, local healthcare providers is not easy to find, and many times those services are difficult to access.

Information and encouragement always lowers fear and trepidation about anything, and this is especially true in healthcare. While general information is available on web-sites, specific information from local providers is almost impossible for people to find. This is one of the key reasons chronic and episodic conditions are not cared for. It is our mission to:

Make A Difference By Empowering and Encouraging People To Live Healthier By Going To the Doctor When They Should.

There is a lot of evidence that the health professionals who participate in Your Health Magazine have helped many people over the years. We at Your Health Magazine salute you!

G. Scott Hunter, Editor-in-Chief

If you would like to find out how you can participate in one of our upcoming editions, please contact the office nearest you.

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PRP Injections Treat a Variety Of Pain



By Madhavi Chada, MD Synergy Spine and Pain Center

Platelet-rich plasma (PRP) is a concentrate of plasma that has a higher amount of growth factors. It is used to help regenerate soft tissue and healing. Platelet-rich plasma can treat sports injuries, including torn ligaments and tendons, skeletal fractures, strained muscles, sprained knees and chronic tendon injuries. Blood is drawn from the patient and centrifuged to separate the platelet rich plasma. A local anesthetic may also be included with the platelet-rich plasma to be injected into the affected area or the joint.

The entire process usually takes about one hour. Pain at the injection site may increase after the procedure, but it declines in a few days. The patient may not feel the full benefits of the treatment until after a few weeks.

Risks and Side Effects

There are general risks of skin puncture associated with contamination and infection. However, since a PRP injection is made with the patient's own blood, the risk of these complications is very low.

The most common side effect of the procedure is tenderness at the site of the injection. Hence, the patient should minimize activity for at least one day following the procedure.

Beauty Inside and Out

Five Keys To Finding the Right Doctor



By Hema Sundaram, MA, MD, FAAD Sundaram Dermatology

This year, as we look forward to summer activities, more and more men and women are choosing nonsurgical methods to look energetic and youthful, and also to keep their professional edge.

Today's non-invasive technology can rejuvenate you dramatically, yet subtly. You can look completely natural, without scarring and be able to return to normal activities, while others will be unaware that you've

had anything done unless you choose to tell them.

Here are five keys to help you choose the right doctor for your summer events and beyond:

Credentials

The American Board of Medical Specialties certifies doctors in specialties based on their training, and recognizes only Dermatologists, Plastic Surgeons, Facial Plastic Surgeons, and Oculoplastic Surgeons as the Core Four aesthetic specialists with appropriate qualifications and expertise to be performing cosmetic procedures.

Always ask if your doctor is board certified, as well as what specialty they are certified in, so that you can be sure of who you are trusting your face or body to.

Select an Expert

When practically everyone who

Please see "Beauty," page 44

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Protecting Your Child's Smile

The Truth About Pacifiers and Thumbsucking

By Elizabeth Shin, DDS Bethesda Chevy Chase Pediatric Dentistry

Pacifiers and thumbsucking are a common concern for parents, and for good reason. While pacifiers and thumbsucking can provide comfort to babies, there are potential consequences to prolonged use.

The good news is that pacifiers and thumbsucking are generally harmless for a child's teeth, as long as the habits don't continue for too long. Most children will naturally stop sucking on their own by the age of three, but if the habit persists, it can cause problems with their dental development.

The main issue with pacifiers and thumbsucking is that they can cause misalignment of the teeth and jaw. Constant sucking can push the front teeth forward, causing an overbite, or push the lower teeth back, causing an underbite. This can affect the way a child bites, chews, and speaks, and may require orthodontic treatment later on.

Another concern is the effect that sucking can have on the shape of the mouth and palate. Prolonged sucking can cause the roof of the mouth to narrow and become high and arched. This can cause speech problems and make it difficult for permanent teeth to come in properly.

So, what should parents do if their child is a thumbsucker or pacifier user? The first step is to monitor the habit and try to limit it as much as possible. If your child is using a pacifier, try to wean them off of it by the age of one. If they are a thumbsucker, offer other forms of comfort and try to redirect their attention when they start sucking.

If the habit persists beyond the age of three, it's a good idea to consult with a pediatric dentist. They can evaluate your child's dental development and recommend any necessary treatment, such as a mouth appliance or orthodontic intervention.

It's also important to practice good oral hygiene habits to prevent

any potential dental problems. Make sure your child brushes their teeth twice a day and flosses regularly, and schedule regular check-ups with their dentist to monitor their dental health.

Pacifiers and thumbsucking can be a source of comfort for babies, but they can also cause dental problems if they continue for too long. As a parent, it's important to monitor these habits and take steps to limit them if necessary. And don't forget to prioritize good oral hygiene to keep your child's teeth healthy and strong!

Tips To Help Parents Stop the Pacifier and Thumbsucking For Pacifiers:

- Join with your pediatric dentist and tell your child about giving the pacifier to the Pacifier fairy. You can tell them that there are a lot of babies in need of pacifiers and the pacifier fairy is willing to give a great toy if they place the pacifier under the pillow.
- Try cutting the tip of the pacifier to decrease suction – this may help your child's sensory feelings from it.
- You can try creative projects, such as planting the pacifier in the backyard. Next day, it will sprout a toy or a nice treat!
- Emphasize the point that pacifiers are for babies, just like bottles and diapers. Big kids don't need them.
- Remember, it is not how often the pacifier stays in the mouth, it is for how long it stays in the mouth. If your child needs it to go to sleep, as soon as she/he is sleeping, remove it from the mouth.
- Choose your battles if you have a child that is not feeling well or you have a new baby at home, don't force the issue. You can say to them, whenever you are ready to be a big kid, we will ask the pacifier fairy to come in.

For Thumbsucking:

- Thumbsucking is more difficult to stop. Most of the time tinctures or pastes that don't taste good don't work well if they are really into it. As the child gets older and goes to daycare or school, peer pressure can help them stop the habit.
- Work with your child to make them want to stop and then we can introduce tinctures, gloves or appliances to help them with the habit.
- Engage the help of your pediatric dentist: they can be a source of support and encouragement to you and your child.



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Shining the Light On Pain

...and Remedies Of Hope



By Linda Penkala, Author, LMT Wellness Catalyst

These hands have touched thousands of clients in pain these last 35 years as a massage therapist. Walking out in a different state than they came in, is inspiring as I try to be on the cutting edge of holistic modalities for those dealing with the whole gamut of pain. Types of pain:

Acute - cuts, burns, surgery,

dental surgery, birthing a child

Chronic - can affect quality of life, and persist for over 6 months, as a result of cancer, fibromyalgia, or diabetes

Neuropathic - from nerve damage, with sharp pain, stabbing, or burning. Some causes can be radiation, stroke, chemotherapy, cancer or diabetes

Nociceptive – trauma to bodily tissue, hitting an elbow, stubbing toe, usually to skin, joints, bones or tendons

During my medical intake review of a new client, I ask their pain levels, plus emotional, and work stress from 1-10 with 10 the highest. The higher the number, the worse their life balance may be, that equally affects the health of muscles, joints, the mind, plus possible struggling relationships.

Please see "Shining," page 63

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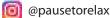
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Get the Body Shape You Want with Non-Invasive Laser Liposuction

Submitted By Luminox Healthcare Services

Non-invasive laser liposuction, also known as i-Lipo, is a popular cosmetic procedure that promises to reduce body fat without any surgery or downtime. This innovative procedure uses laser technology to break down fat cells and eliminate them from the body, resulting in a slimmer, more toned appearance.

i-Lipo is a completely safe and non-invasive procedure that requires no anesthesia or incisions. During the procedure, a trained technician will apply low-level laser energy to the target area, which causes the fat cells to release their contents. This process is known as lipolysis, and it allows the body to naturally eliminate the fat through its lymphatic system.

One of the primary benefits of i-Lipo is its speed and convenience.

Each treatment session typically lasts only 20-30 minutes, and most patients require a series of 8-10 sessions to achieve their desired results. Unlike traditional liposuction, which requires significant recovery time and often leaves patients with unsightly scars, i-Lipo is virtually painless and requires no downtime. Patients can return to their normal activities immediately after each treatment session, making it an ideal

option for busy individuals who want to improve their body shape without disrupting their daily routine.

In addition to its convenience and safety, i-Lipo is also highly effective. Studies have shown that patients can experience a significant reduction in body fat following a series of i-Lipo treatments, with some patients seeing up to a 30% reduction in fat in the treated area. It's important to note, however, that i-Lipo is not a weight loss solution and is best suited for patients who are already at or near their ideal weight but have stubborn areas of fat that are resistant to diet and exercise.

Non-invasive laser liposuction, also known as i-Lipo, is a popular cosmetic procedure that promises to reduce body fat without any surgery or downtime.

Another advantage of i-Lipo is its versatility. This procedure can be used to treat a wide range of body areas, including the thighs, hips, abdomen, arms, and even the face. Whether you're looking to eliminate love handles, reduce a double chin, or contour your arms, i-Lipo can help you achieve your goals.

Overall, i-Lipo is a safe, effective, and convenient option for individuals who want to reduce body fat without undergoing surgery. If you're considering this procedure, it's important to choose a reputable provider who has experience with i-Lipo and can answer any questions you may have. With the right care and attention, i-Lipo can help you achieve the body shape you've always wanted and boost your confidence in the process.



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New Solutions for Dentures and Dental Implants

By Karl A. Smith, DDS, MS

Dentures are a good replacement option for patients who are missing all of their teeth, but only if they fit well.

Why Are My Dentures Loose?

Impact on the bone by continuous hitting and pressure of a denture against the jaw every time you eat can make the bone underneath the denture go away. This causes the denture to become loose and slip. It may create the need for using paste or other means to hold the denture in place. Slipping dentures can make eating certain foods very difficult for patients. This happens most often with lower dentures.

How Can Dentures Fit Well For a Long Time?

Dental implants can be placed under the denture. Implants have offered the possibility of fully replacing teeth for over 30 years and are very safe and effective. When you make the denture stable by "snapping" it onto dental implants, you can provide a better level of comfort for the denture-wearer, and create new strength for eating the foods patients love.

Dentures are a good replacement option for patients who are missing all of their teeth, but only if they fit well.

Dental implants are very much like your natural teeth. They are quite easy to get used to, and they can reduce the amount of stress to the bone and jaw by helping provide an anchor for support. The implant acts as a natural root to help prevent additional bone deterioration and helps to deliver long lasting function.

Does Every Denture-Wearer Qualify?

This depends on the amount of bone loss that has already taken place. If the denture has been in place for many years and the ridge of bone under it is very thin, you may need to have a special scan done to decide if you are a candidate for the procedure. This scan will also look for any other defects that may be present to make sure you are healthy. Since implants are meant to last for a very long time, your health and wellness are important to the outcome.

How Long Does a Patient Have To Go Without Teeth?

Never. The denture is fitted to the implants, the same day the implants are placed. Typically, you are back to normal or better eating by day two or three.

Do Dental Implants Hurt?

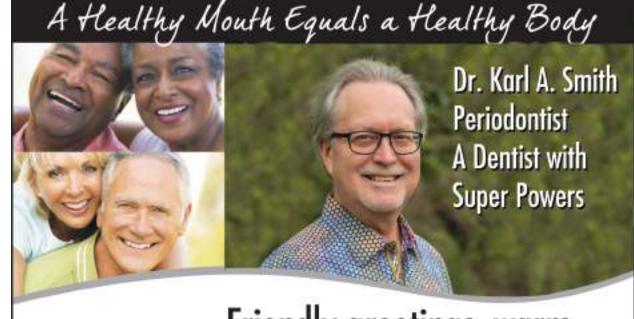
Most patients have little to no dis-

comfort. The surgery is done in one day, typically in just a few hours. There are sedation options available for this procedure for those patients who want to relax through the procedure.

Is Treatment Expensive?

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Fibromyalgia How Do You Treat It?



By Alan Weiss, MD Annapolis Integrative Medicine

Fibromyalgia syndrome affects at least six million Americans, causing more disability than rheumatoid arthritis. The prevalence is rapidly increasing, likely having increased by 200-400% in the last 10 years alone. Fibromyalgia remains a condition without a fully understood cause, in which patients report chronic widespread pain and a variety of other common complaints including fatigue, sleep disorders, cognitive deficits, irritable bowel syndrome, headaches, Raynaud's syndrome, and a wide array

of other symptom patterns that do not make sense unless one is familiar with the syndrome.

There are many reasons for widespread pain and fatigue, many of which commonly result in a mistaken diagnosis of fibromyalgia. It is important to see a physician experienced in the diagnosis and treatment of fibromyalgia. Medical problems such as undiagnosed hypothyroidism, nerve problems, medicine side effects, connective tissue disorders and autoimmune diseases can be mistakenly called fibromyalgia leaving people going down an ineffective tunnel of treatment and testing.

Unfortunately, even when an accurate diagnosis of fibromyalgia is made, a patient is often told the only thing you can do is to take one of a few prescription drugs. But if these medications are not effective or produce intolerable side effects, the patients are told there is not much else to do other than rest, take it easy and take pain medication.

The good news is there are actually a lot of other things you can do to

Please see "Fibromyalgia," page 65



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Chiropractic **Treatment and Pain**



By Alicia Kovach, DC Kovach Chiropractic

Chiropractic remains one of the most widely used forms of manual medicine - treatment that uses the hands to manipulate the body. The word "chiropractic" comes from Greek roots meaning "done by hand." It was formally introduced in 1895 and goes back to ancient systems of treatment in China, India, and Egypt. Chiropractors concentrate on spinal manipulation as a means of relieving pain, primarily chronic low back pain, neck pain, tension headaches along with pain in the knees, shoulders and elbows. Spinal adjustment (manipulation) is one form of therapy chiropractors use to treat restricted spinal mobility. Many use additional treatments such as ultrasound, electrical muscle stimulation and exercises. The goal is to restore spinal movement and improve function.

Some patients do not like having their body aligned by manual manipulation. In these cases, the chiropractic activator is used. It was invented because chiropractors needed a better, more efficient way of helping their patients without causing pain or stress. The most common reason to visit a chiropractor is to relieve stress and pain, not add more. With this treatment using the activator, people are less afraid of treatment; therefore, less painful and more efficient in re-aligning bones in the body. Your chiropractor will assess which would be best for the patient.

Chiropractic care can help with trauma from an accident causing spi-

Please see "Treatment," page 62

Unlocking the Secret To Managing Hair Loss In Women



By Jaimi Jackson, Owner Jai Stylz Hair Salon and Beyond the Strandz Wellness Clinic

Hair loss is a common problem that affects both men and women. However, it is not often discussed in women, and it can have a significant impact on their self-esteem and quality of life. In this article, we will discuss the causes of hair loss in women, its impact, and ways to manage it.

Causes Of Hair Loss In Women

There are several causes of hair loss in women, and it is essential to identify the underlying cause to determine the best course of treatment. Some common causes of hair loss in women are:

- Hormonal Changes: Hormonal changes, such as those that occur during pregnancy, menopause, and thyroid disorders, can cause hair loss.
- **Hereditary Factors:** Hair loss can be inherited from parents, especially if there is a history of baldness in the family.
- Medical Conditions: Certain medical conditions, such as alopecia areata, scalp infections, and trichotillomania, can cause hair loss.
- Nutritional Deficiencies: Deficiencies in iron, vitamin D, and other essential nutrients can lead to hair loss.
- Medications: Certain medications, such as chemotherapy drugs, can cause hair loss.

Impact Of Hair Loss In Women

Women often associate their hair with their femininity and beauty, and losing their hair can be devastating. Women with hair loss may avoid social situations and feel self-conscious about their appearance. They may also experience anxiety and depression, which can further exacerbate their hair loss.

Ways To Manage Hair Loss In Women

Fortunately, there are several ways to manage hair loss in women. Here are some options:

• Hair Transplants: Hair transplants involve taking hair from one part of the scalp and transplanting

it to the balding area.

- Wigs and Hairpieces: Wigs and hairpieces can provide a quick solution to hair loss, and they can be customized to match the natural hair color and style.
- Lifestyle Changes: Eating a balanced diet, getting regular exer-

cise, and managing stress can help promote hair growth.

 Hair Care: Using gentle hair care products, avoiding tight hairstyles, and limiting the use of hot styling tools can help prevent further hair loss.

Hair loss is not a one size fits all

problem. It is essential to identify the underlying cause of hair loss to determine the best course of treatment. With the right treatment and management, women can restore their hair and regain their confidence. If you are experiencing hair loss, speak to a hair care professional to determine the best course of action.





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Improving Mental Health Through Behavior Change and Weight Loss

How Local Counselors Can Help.

Submitted By A+ Counseling Center

Mental health is a vital component of overall wellbeing. It affects how we feel, think, and act, and is linked to numerous physical health outcomes, such as heart disease, diabetes, and obesity. When mental

health is compromised, it can lead to feelings of sadness, anxiety, and depression, making it difficult to perform daily activities and maintain healthy relationships. In recent years, research has shown that weight loss can be an effective way to improve mental health by changing behaviors that contribute to poor mental health.

One of the most effective ways to lose weight and improve mental health is through behavior change. This means altering habits that may be contributing to weight gain, such as unhealthy eating patterns, a lack of physical activity, and poor sleep habits. By making small changes to these behaviors, individuals can lose

weight, improve physical health, and enhance their mental wellbeing.

One of the most common ways that behavior change can improve mental health is through improved self-esteem. When individuals begin to lose weight and make healthier choices, they often feel more confident and positive about their appearance, which can improve their mood and overall sense of wellbeing. Additionally, weight loss can help individuals feel more in control of their lives, which can reduce feelings of stress and anxiety.

Local behavioral health professionals and counselors can play an essential role in supporting individuals who are seeking to improve their mental health through weight loss. These professionals can help individuals identify patterns of behavior that may be contributing to weight gain and provide guidance on how to modify these behaviors to support weight loss and improve mental health. Additionally, they can provide emotional support and help individuals develop coping strategies to manage stress, anxiety, and other emotional challenges that may arise during the weight loss process.

Behavioral health professionals and counselors can also provide practical tools to support individuals in achieving their weight loss goals. This may include providing guidance on meal planning and healthy food choices, developing an exercise plan, and providing strategies for managing stress and emotions that may trigger overeating or other unhealthy behaviors.

In summary, weight loss through behavior change can be an effective way to improve mental health. Local behavioral health professionals and counselors can play a critical role in supporting individuals on this journey by providing emotional support, practical tools, and guidance on modifying behaviors to support weight loss and enhance mental wellbeing. By working together, individuals can achieve their weight loss goals and improve their overall health and wellbeing.



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Study Of Potential Alzheimer's Treatment

Submitted by Re:Cognition Health

Alzheimer's disease starts with mild memory loss. What if there was a pill to prevent the disease from getting worse?

Studies of an investigational drug are underway to see if it may be effective in slowing the progression of Alzheimer's disease in people who carry two copies of a certain gene (APOE/4) that increases the risk of developing it and other dementias.

While one in four people carries one copy of the gene, only 2 to 3% of the population carries two, and hence are at greatest risk.

Results in a small, ongoing phase II trial of the drug in early Alzheimer's patients with two copies of the gene showed "significant improvement" on memory tests after six months, according to Alzheon, a Massachusetts-based company developing it and a number of potential drugs for Alzheimer's.

Phase three clinical trials of the drug, named ALZ-801, are getting underway. These constitute the final step before the FDA reviews the drug for possible approval. The company's nationwide study is called ApolloE4.

Volunteers Being Sought

In our area, people can participate in the study via Re:Cognition Health – a clinic in Fairfax, Virginia.

Anyone age 50-80 with a diagnosis of mild cognitive impairment (memory loss) is eligible to volunteer. Free genetic testing and testing for Alzheimer's will be done, and participants will be reimbursed for their time.

Participating is also an opportunity to help future Alzheimer's patients, pointed out Monica Bland, operations manager at Re:Cognition Health. "They would be contributing to science and helping people in the future," Bland said.

The 18-month, randomized, doubleblind study requires nine inperson visits to Re:Cognition Health. Participants will also undergo three MRIs or CT scans (their choice).

Half of participants will receive the study drug, and the other half will receive a placebo. Each will take one pill in the morning and one in the evening. The drug has already been proven safe in phase 1 trials. It has been well tolerated in studies so far when taken twice a day with food. Alzheon is hopeful the treatment will eventually save millions from suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

Currently there are no approved drugs that stop or prevent the clinical decline typical of Alzheimer's disease.

Volunteers Being Sought

In our area, people can participate in the study via Re:Cognition Health — a clinic in Fairfax, Virginia.

Travel expenses are paid, for all visits.

"Our end goal is to help patients [by providing] other options for Alzheimer's disease medications, because there is not much out there." Bland

said. "The FDA-approved drugs aren't doing much." For more information or to volunteer to participate in the ApolloE4 study, call 571-418-0142.





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*Trials also available for healthy volunteers to stop them from getting memory loss in the first place.

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Re:Cognition Health Fairfax opened its doors in May 2018 is led by Neurologist, Dr. Scott Turner. Currently, the clinic is specializing in phase 2 and 3 pharmaceutical trials focused on finding a disease-modifying medication to treat those suffering from Mild Cognitive Impairment and Alzheimer's Disease.

The research team working under Dr. Turner is made up of a variety of professionals committed to the highest quality care and patient satisfaction.

www.recognitionhealthusa.com

The Management Of TMD Pain

By Jeffrey L. Brown, DDS Sleep & TMJ Therapy

When it comes to managing the pain of temporomandibular disorder (TMD) it can sometimes be quite confusing as to what should be done. For so many patients who suffer from this disorder, many simply take medications to manage their pain. Common pain medications include ibuprofen or acetaminophen (Advil and Tylenol). Singularly, these drugs work fairly well in managing pain, but did you know that if you took one Tylenol with one Advil, they could have the same effect as a narcotic, and is often more effective than most narcotics in pain management. Because this effect is becoming more well known, you

can even find this combination of drug on many store shelves these days.

The better method is appliance therapy. As a patient gets comfortable to their TMD appliances, their body oftentimes will go through changes, and sometimes these changes can be quite uncomfortable and even painful. Usually the pain is quite manageable, but for the more advanced cases it can



Jeffrey L. Brown, DDS



Dr. Jeffrey Brown has limited his practice to focus only on TMJ Disorders, Craniofacial Pain Management and Sleep Apnea. By fixing slipped discs in the jaw joints, Dr. Brown can significantly reduce the pain patients experience in the head/neck region and other symptoms associated with jaw joint problems. Sleep & TMJ Therapy may be able to improve the quality of life for you or a loved one - we encourage you to contact us with any questions or

"Dr. Brown and his staff are absolutely wonderful. I was diagnosed with Dystonia. I could not turn my head and had a ton of pain. My doctors offered no help and no advice besides Meds and Botox. Since having the appliance I have NO pain and I can turn my head. I would highly recommend them to anyone. I feel Dr. Brown and his staff really care about their patients and helping them to get better. They do not just numb the symptoms but fix the problem. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. I feel like

"My daughter has been treated by Dr. Stack and Dr. Brown for the last 2 1/2 years, and we are very fortunate to have found them. Prior to that she was being treated by a neurologist at a Children's hospital. She was on medications for tics and associated muscle pain, OCD/repetitive thoughts, sleeplessness and more (all possibly associated with Tourettes). Drs. Stack and Brown installed spacers to alleviate pressure on nerve bundles in the jaw, and subsequently braces to complete the process. Her symptoms have diminished significantly. She is off medication, her tics have all but disappeared, she can concentrate better in school, and she is once again cheerful and relaxed."





Jeffrey L. Brown, DDS

- Certified Fellow of the American Academy of Craniofacial Pain
- Over 30 Years Experience
- Graduate of Georgetown School of Dentistry (1986)



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be difficult to handle. This is why so many patients are co-treated often with the physical therapist or and osteopath. As the patient adapts to their new appliances, the physical therapist or osteopath can work on the head and neck regions of the body to help as their body re-aligns. When wearing TMD appliances, the neck will often begin to re-align and this process can be uncomfortable, especially if the neck has been out of alignment for a very long time. All this is very normal.

Another avenue of pain management involves the use of laser therapy and oftentimes combined with massage treatment as well. The patients who experience this level of treatment often report they are very relaxed and have less pain at the end of their session with the therapist. The laser used for this therapy is a remarkably efficient device that greatly reduces pain in the head and neck region and leaves the patient with a warm feeling for quite some time.

A relative newcomer to the arena of pain management is the Neubie device. This is a DC current electrical stimulation device that gently pulses the muscles of the entire body to create a feeling of wellbeing along with increased range of motion and decreased full body pain. There are many cases of patients who were prepared for surgery such as rotator cuff surgery who ended up not needing this surgery after several Neubie sessions. The device helps to re-train the brain into realizing that a previously remembered painful experience no longer needs to be recognized as painful, which greatly helps to increase range of motion.

Other avenues of pain management include dry needling and acupuncture. The two are somewhat similar and many patients report that the effect lasts for several days after a session. Another pain treatment that is useful but underutilized is something called Chi Kung or Qi Gong. This is an ancient Chinese meditation technique that reduces pain.

There are these and many more techniques to help manage TMD pain.

Non-Surgical Treatments For Pain



By Levi Pearson MD, DABA, DABPM Metropolitan Pain and Spine

Pain can be caused by a wide range of conditions and can have a significant impact on an individual's quality of life. While surgery is often seen as the most effective treatment for pain, there are many non-surgical treatments that can be just as effective, if not more so. These treatments can include medication, physical therapy, psychological therapies, and alternative therapies.

Medications are often the first line of treatment for pain, and there are several different types available, including over-the-counter pain relievers, prescription painkillers, and adjuvant medications (medications that are used in addition to the primary pain medication). Over-the-counter pain relievers, such as ibuprofen and acetaminophen, can be effective for mild to moderate pain, while prescription painkillers are typically used for more severe pain. Adjuvant medications, such as antidepressants and anticonvulsants, can be used in addition to the primary pain medication to help improve the effectiveness of the therapy.

Physical therapy is another nonsurgical treatment for pain that can be highly effective. Physical therapists can use a variety of techniques, such as exercise, massage, and heat or cold therapy, to help improve muscle strength and flexibility, increase range of motion, and reduce inflammation. Physical therapy can also help to improve posture and body mechanics.

Psychological therapies, such as cognitive-behavioral therapy and biofeedback, can also be an effective form of non-surgical treatment for pain. These therapies can help to reduce anxiety, depression, and stress, which can exacerbate pain. They can also help individuals to learn how to manage their pain and improve their overall quality of life.

Alternative therapies, such as acupuncture, chiropractic care, and yoga, are also commonly used for pain

management. Acupuncture can help to reduce pain and improve mobility by stimulating specific points on the body. Chiropractic care can help to align the spine and reduce pressure on the nerves, which can help to reduce pain. Yoga, on the other hand, can help to improve flexibility, strength and reduce stress, which can help to reduce pain.

Another non-surgical treatment for pain is interventional pain management. Interventional pain management is a branch of medicine that uses minimally invasive procedures to diagnose and treat pain. These procedures can include nerve blocks, epidural injections, and spinal cord stimulation. These procedures can provide long-term relief from pain and improve the quality of life for patients.

It is important to note that nonsurgical treatments for pain are not a one-size-fits-all approach, and what works for one person may not work for another. It is important to work with a healthcare provider to find the right combination of therapies that work for you. It is also important to set realistic goals and to be patient with the process of managing pain, as it can take time to find the right treatment plan.

Pain can be caused by a wide range of conditions and can have a significant impact on an individual's quality of life. While surgery is often seen as the most effective treatment for pain, there are many non-surgical treatments that can be just as effective. These treatments can include medication, physical therapy, psychological therapies, alternative therapies, and interventional pain management. It is important to be patient with the process of managing your pain.

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Painful Sex: A Real Mid-Life Crisis

Submitted by New Day Vitality Hormone Center

It's one of life's cruel ironies: the kids are finally out of the house so you have more privacy and free time but having sex gets . . . complicated.

"Both men and women deal with hormone changes in their 40s that can cause changes in sexual arousal, desire and general physical comfort during sexual activity," says Shannon Chavez, a licensed psychologist and certified sex therapist in Los Angeles.

But for women, pain with intercourse – called dyspareunia (dis-puh-ROO-nee-uh) – is among their top three menopause problems.

According to the North American Menopause Society (NAMS), a science-driven, nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the health and quality of life of all women during midlife and beyond, "between 17-45% of postmenopausal women say they find sex painful."

The culprit is lower levels of

estrogen. Throughout a woman's reproductive years, estrogen contributes to effective vaginal lubrication and thickens the vaginal wall while increasing blood vessels to the skin. But levels of estrogen wildly fluctuate in women's 40s and, without hormone therapy, remain low after menopause, causing vaginal atrophy - vaginal dryness and loss of elasticity. Not only can this cause pain during sex, but, over time, intercourse under these harsh conditions also can cause vaginal inflammation and even mild injury, adding to a woman's distress and discomfort.

Luckily, there are treatments available for vaginal atrophy and dyspareunia, ranging from over-the-counter water-soluble lubricants to topical and systemic hormone therapy. But lubrication alone may not solve the problem of vaginal atrophy. NAMS suggests the use of vibrators and dildos to help stimulate blood flow, as well as vaginal dilators – plastic or rubbery

Please see "Painful Sex," page 65

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- is on a fixed income, or is a recipient of at least one state or federal financial benefit;
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If you meet the above criteria, you may apply for the MAT program. Applications are available online at mdrelay.com. Once your application is approved, you will be notified and given instructions to schedule a free evaluation at a MAT evaluation center near you.

During this evaluation, you will have the opportunity to practice dialing, answering and talking on several different pieces of equipment until the evaluator finds the solution that works best for you. Your evaluator will order your equipment and it will be shipped to your home within 4-6 weeks. Each device comes with personalized instructions for setup and use, and you may always contact your local MAT evaluation center for additional training and set-up.

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- Hearing Carry-Over (HCO) phones
- Voice Carry-Over (VCO) phones
- · Hands-free phones

If you do not qualify for the MAT program but would like to purchase equipment, you may also request a free evaluation at any MAT evaluation center.

To learn more, or to apply for the MAT program, please visit mdrelay. org or call 1-800-552-7724 (Voice/TTY) or 443-453-5970 (VP).







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By Gregory Taylor, MS, Owner Taylored 4 Life Wellness, Inc.

Chronic diseases, such as heart disease, stroke, cancer, and diabetes, are responsible for a large proportion of deaths and health problems globally. These conditions are often long-term, persistent, and often develop as a result of unhealthy lifestyle choices and environmental factors. However, the good news is that many chronic diseases can be prevented through lifestyle changes, such as eating a healthy diet, exercising regularly, and avoiding tobacco use.

One of the most effective ways to prevent chronic diseases is to maintain a healthy diet. A diet rich in fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean proteins, and healthy fats can help to reduce the risk of heart disease, stroke, and other chronic conditions. Additionally, limiting the intake of processed foods, sugar, and unhealthy fats can also help to reduce the risk of chronic diseases.

Exercise is another important factor in chronic disease prevention. Regular physical activity has been shown to reduce the risk of heart disease, stroke, and several types of cancer. Exercise can also help to maintain a healthy weight, reduce stress, and improve overall mental and physical health. The American Heart Association recommends at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic exercise per week for adults, or 30 minutes of exercise per day, five days per week.

Avoiding tobacco use is also crucial for preventing chronic diseases. Tobacco use is a major risk factor for heart disease, stroke, and several types of cancer, and can also have negative effects on lung health, oral health, and overall quality of life. Quitting smoking or using tobacco products can greatly reduce the risk of chronic diseases and improve overall health.

In addition to these lifestyle changes, it is also important to monitor your health regularly and to seek medical care when necessary. Regular check-ups and screening tests, such as blood pressure and cholesterol tests, can help to detect chronic

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diseases in their early stages and allow for prompt treatment.

Additionally, managing existing health conditions, such as high blood pressure, diabetes, and high cholesterol, through lifestyle changes and medication, can help to prevent further health problems and reduce the

risk of chronic diseases.

Environmental factors, such as air pollution and exposure to toxic substances, can also contribute to the development of chronic diseases. To reduce the risk of exposure, it is important to take steps to minimize exposure to toxic substances, such as

using natural cleaning products, eating organic foods, and avoiding exposure to environmental pollutants, such as secondhand smoke.

By taking a proactive approach to your health, you can help to reduce your risk of chronic diseases and enjoy a happier, healthier life.



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By Etwar McBean, MD, FACS The Bariatric & Hernia Institute, PC

What Is Sleep Apnea?

Sleep apnea is a sleep disorder characterized by airway obstruction and disturbed airflow. The airway obstruction is usually caused by excessive tissue around the airway and leads to oxygen starvation during the sleep. It is frequently seen in obese individuals and is highest in individuals who are morbidly obese (greater than 100 pounds overweight). Patients have snoring and frequent arousal due to the disturbed breathing. Some patients will even stop breathing during sleep, only to wake up suddenly gasping for air. Many individuals are tired during the daytime with a tendency to fall asleep easily. In the long term, there is a risk for cardiovascular and respiratory complications and even sudden death.

How Is Sleep Apnea Diagnosed?

Sleep apnea can be screened for during a medical evaluation with questions and a clinical exam. The diagnosis is confirmed by doing a sleep study, either at home or in a sleep lab.

Traditional Treatments

Treatments are aimed at increasing the space through which the air travels.

Traditional treatments include CPAP and BIPAP machines that allow the airway to stay open for oxygen to flow to the lungs. Oral appliances are also used with the same goal but are more appropriate for mild sleep

Please see "Sleep Apnea," page 62







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Forefoot Surgery



By Howard Horowitz, DPM Bowie Foot & Ankle

Many foot problems do not respond to conservative management. Your podiatric physician can determine when surgical intervention may be helpful. Often, when pain or deformity persists, surgery may be appropriate to alleviate discomfort or to restore the function of your foot.

Bunions

A bunion, which is a common deformity of the foot, is an enlargement of the bone and tissue around the joint of the big toe.

When symptomatic, the area may become red, swollen and inflamed, making shoe gear and walking uncomfortable and difficult. If conservative care fails to reduce these symptoms, surgical intervention may be warranted.

Hammertoes

A hammertoe deformity is a contracture of the toe(s), frequently caused by an imbalance in the tendon or joints of the toes.

Due to the buckling effect of the toe(s), hammertoes may become painful secondary to footwear irritation and pressure. Your podiatric physician may suggest correction of this deformity through a surgical procedure to realign the toe(s).

Neuroma

An irritation of a nerve may produce a neuroma, which is a benign enlargement of a nerve segment, commonly found between the third and fourth toes. Several factors may contribute to the formation of a neuroma.

Your podiatric physician will likely x-ray the affected area to determine the size and severity of the neuroma and suggest a treatment plan. If conservative treatment does not relieve the symptoms, your podiatric physician will then decide on the basis of your symptoms, and whether surgical treatment is appropriate.

Bunionette (Tailor's Bunion)

A protuberance of bone at the outside of the foot behind the fifth (small) toe, the bunionette (or small bunion), is caused by a variety of conditions including heredity, faulty biomechanics (the way one walks) or trauma, to name a few. Pain is often associated with this deformity, making shoes very uncomfortable.

If severe and conservative treatments fail to improve the symptoms of this condition, surgical repair may be suggested. Your podiatric physician will develop a surgical plan specific to the condition present.

Please see "Forefoot," page 62





Howard Horowitz, DPM

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All-On-Four Dental Implants



Submitted By Sivakumar Sreenivasan, DMD, MDS Dental Implant Center of Rockville

Can just four implants replace all of the teeth on the top or the bottom of your mouth? Thanks to advances in dental implant technology, that answer is a resounding yes.

Believe it or not, tooth loss is extremely common among adults, especially as we age. In fact, more than 35 million people in America are missing all of their upper and/or lower teeth. Rather than living with the discomfort and hassles of dentures, many people are opting for what is called "all-on-four" dental implant restoration.

All-On-Four: One Full Arch Of Teeth, Four Dental Implants

To fully understand this remarkable technique for replacing teeth, you should first understand what a dental implant is. An implant is a small titanium screw that fits inside your jawbone and replaces the root-part of a missing tooth. Minor surgery is required to insert the implants. Once the implant is in place, a crown is attached to give you a highly realistic-looking and functional prosthetic tooth.

Here's where it gets really interesting: You do not need a dental implant for each and every one of your missing teeth. All you need is

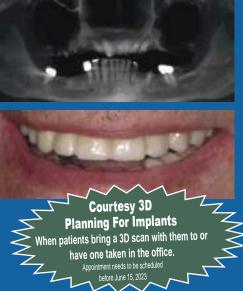
Please see "All-On-Four," page 62

All-On-4: Same Day Smiles



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Traditional Chinese Medicine For Epilepsy



By Quansheng Lu, CMD, PhD, LAc Wholelife Chinese Medicine & Acupuncture Center

Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) is a comprehensive and ancient medical system that has been practiced for thousands of years in China. It is a natural, holistic approach to treating illnesses and maintaining health. TCM emphasizes the harmony of the body, mind, and spirit, and views disease as an imbalance in the body's energy, or

Qi. Epilepsy is a neurological disorder characterized by recurrent seizures, and TCM has been used for centuries to treat this condition.

TCM practitioners believe that epilepsy is caused by a disturbance in the flow of Qi, which can be due to various factors, such as emotional stress, poor diet, or external factors such as trauma. The goal of TCM treatment for epilepsy is to restore the balance of Qi and promote the body's natural healing abilities. TCM therapies for epilepsy can be used alone or in combination with conventional Western medicine.

Acupuncture is a popular TCM therapy for epilepsy. It involves the insertion of thin needles into specific points on the body to stimulate the flow of *Qi* and restore balance. Acupuncture has been shown to be

Please see "Epilepsy," page 62

(4.5)

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Guest professor, Henan University of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) Chief TCM Physician, WFCMS; M.S. in TCM, Beijing University of TCM PhD in integrated medicine, China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences Fellowship, Georgetown University & Children's National Medical Center 3 patents, 8 books of TCM, 30 papers, 30+ years of experience in TCM

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Radon Regulations Living In a

Living In a High Radon State



By Vinny Gigliotti, CEO Certified Indoor Environmentalist Environmental Solutions, Inc.

Radon, which is found in soil, water, and rocks, is a radioactive gas that can seep into your home through tiny cracks and gaps in your foundation.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States, after smoking. It is estimated that radon causes about 21,000 lung cancer deaths each year

in the United States. Your risk of developing lung cancer from radon exposure is up to 10 times higher if you are a smoker.

Many other factors can affect the risk of radon related illness, such as:

- Age
- Concentration of radon exposure
- Duration of radon exposure

Radon testing is the best way to find out if your home has high levels of radon. The EPA recommends testing your home for radon at least once every two years, or if you have done any major renovations or changes to your home's structure.

In Maryland, it is especially important to test for radon as the state has been identified as having some of the highest radon levels in the country.

Due to this, Montgomery County, which is known to be a high radon area, is expanding on their current

Please see "Radon," page 63

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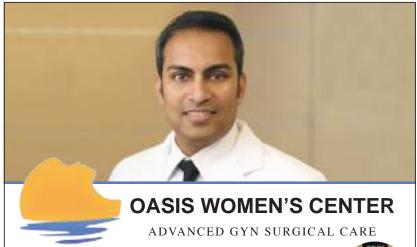
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Discover the Benefits Of the Latest Natural Health and Wellness Services

Submitted By Elon Roshell Day Spa & Health, LLC

Natural health and wellness services have gained tremendous popularity in recent times. People are more inclined towards natural remedies rather than going for synthetic treatments. There are various natural health and wellness services available in the market, including oxygen therapy, infrared sauna, red light Therapy, Ionic Bath, Salt Cave, and Halo Therapy, which can provide numerous health benefits.

Oxygen Therapy involves breathing in pure oxygen through a mask or nasal tube. This therapy can increase the level of oxygen in the blood, which in turn helps in reducing inflammation and improving cognitive function. It also helps in reducing stress levels, improving sleep quality, and boosting energy levels. Oxygen therapy is an effective treatment for asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and other respiratory problems.

Infrared Sauna is a type of sauna that uses infrared heaters to emit radiant heat, which is absorbed by the skin. It helps in detoxification by increasing blood circulation and stimulating the sweat glands. It also helps in reducing inflammation, easing joint pain, and promoting relaxation. Infrared sauna is also known to be beneficial for people suffering from skin problems like eczema and psoriasis.

Red Light Therapy is a non-invasive treatment that uses red and near-infrared light to promote tissue repair, reduce inflammation, and improve skin health. It is an effective treatment for skin problems like acne, wrinkles, and scars. It also helps in reducing pain, inflammation, and stiffness in the joints. Red light therapy is an excellent option for athletes as it helps in reducing muscle fatigue and soreness.

Ionic Bath is a type of foot bath that uses an ionic foot detox machine to create positively and negatively charged ions in the water. These ions help in removing toxins and impurities from the body through the feet. Ionic bath helps in reducing stress, improving sleep quality, and boosting energy levels. It is also an effective treatment for people suffering from joint pain and arthritis.

Salt Cave is a room that is designed to mimic the environment of a natural salt mine. It is filled with Himalayan salt, which helps in reducing inflammation, improving respiratory function, and promoting relaxation. Salt cave is an effective treatment for people suffering from allergies, asthma, and other respiratory problems.

Halo Therapy involves sitting in a room that is filled with dry salt aerosol. The salt particles are inhaled into the lungs, which helps in reducing inflammation and promoting respiratory function. It also helps in improving skin health and reducing stress levels. Halo therapy is an effective treatment for people suffering from respiratory

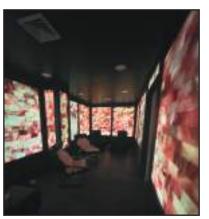
problems like asthma and bronchitis.

Natural health and wellness services like oxygen therapy, infrared sauna, red light therapy, ionic bath, salt cave, and halo therapy can provide numerous health benefits. They are non-invasive, natural, and safe treatments that can help in improving overall health and wellbeing.

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Our Oxygen Therapy treatment can help you with respiratory problems, while our Infrared Sauna will help you relax and detoxify your body. Our Red Light Therapy is perfect for reducing inflammation and promoting skin health. Our lonic Bath is a great way to remove toxins from your body through your feet. Our Salt Cave mimics the environment of a natural salt mine, helping to improve respiratory function and reduce inflammation. Our Halo Therapy involves inhaling dry salt aerosol, which can improve respiratory function and reduce stress levels.

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#National HIV Testing Day

By Kurtis R. Sykes, MDH Charles County Department of Health

National HIV Testing Day is an annual event observed on June 27th that aims to promote HIV testing and raise awareness about the importance of knowing your HIV status. Since its start in 1995, this event serves as a reminder that HIV remains a significant public health issue that affects millions of people worldwide. Early diagnosis

and treatment can improve health outcomes, and people living with HIV can live long and healthy lives.

Despite the progress made in the fight against HIV/AIDS, stigma and discrimination continue to be major challenges. Misconceptions about HIV being a death sentence persist, which can discourage people from getting tested or seeking treatment. However, with the right care and treatment, people living with HIV can lead full and productive lives.

Why Is National HIV Testing Day Important?

Early diagnosis is crucial in managing HIV. HIV testing is the only way to know for sure if you have the virus. Starting antiretroviral therapy (ART) as soon as possible can help people living with HIV stay healthy, prevent disease progression, and reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others. With early treatment, people living with HIV can enjoy a normal life expectancy.



Kurtis R. Sykes, MDH

National HIV Testing Day is a reminder that HIV testing is essential for everyone, regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or HIV status. It's important to get tested regularly and know your status to protect your health and the health of your partners. HIV testing is confidential, and there are many places where you can get tested, including clinics, hospitals, and community health centers.

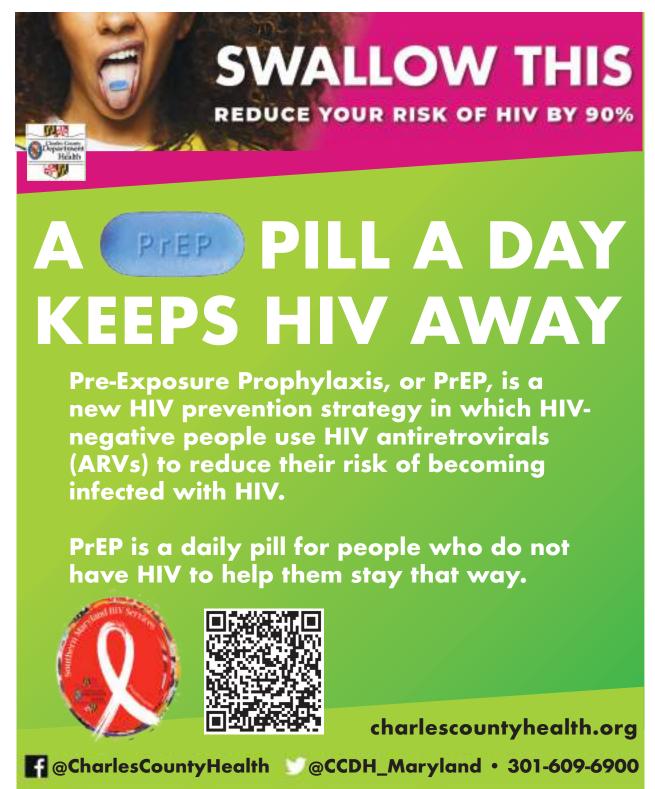
What Can I Do To Prevent HIV?

For those who are not living with HIV, there are prevention options available. Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) is a daily pill that can reduce the risk of getting HIV by up to 99%. It is recommended for people who are at high risk of getting HIV, including those who are in a relationship with an HIV-positive partner, those who have sex without condoms, and those who inject drugs. It's important to remember that PrEP is not a substitute for safe sex practices, such as using condoms, getting tested regularly for sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and limiting your number of sexual partners. However, when used correctly, PrEP can be an effective tool to help prevent HIV transmission.

How Can I Be a Part Of National HIV Testing Day?

All in all, HIV is a manageable condition, and early diagnosis and treatment are critical to staying healthy. National HIV Testing Day is an opportunity to promote HIV testing and encourage everyone to know their status. You can make an impact by getting yourself tested and educating and encouraging those around you to do the same. Let's work together to eliminate stigma and discrimination and create a world where everyone can live healthy and fulfilling lives, regardless of their HIV status.

Call The Charles County Department of Health at 301-609-6875 for more information on our Upcoming National HIV Testing Day event. Visit us online at CharlesCountyhealth. org or follow us on Instagram for more information on this event and others.



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Dr. Patrick C. Winters

DC w/PT Privileges

Degrees, Training, and Certifications: Doctor of Chiropractic, Northwestern College of Chiropractic; Bachelor of Science, Human Biology Minnesota State University. AMA Guides to Evaluating Permanent Impairment, Certified Disability Examiner, Manipulation Under Anesthesia Certified.

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Meet Sarah A. Merritt

My Degrees & Training: Majored in Biology Birmingham-Southern College and graduating Phi Beta Kappa. During medical school at the University of Alabama in Birmingham, Dr. Merritt was selected for the prestigious Howard Hughes Medical Institute-National Institutes of Health Research Scholars program, and worked for a year during medical school as a researcher at the NIH in Bethesda, Maryland. Dr. Merritt performed her residency at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, and pursued extra fellowship training in pain management at the Johns Hopkins Medical Institute. Her training included the full spectrum of pain management techniques, including interventional pain management and pain medication management.

Professional Memberships: Board Certified in Anesthesiology and Pain Management through the ABMS, the gold standard in physician certification. She has practiced in a variety of settings since training, including Johns Hopkins. She has also volunteered her time to travel to India, providing anesthesia for cleft lip and palate surgeries.



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Dr. Levi Pearson is the Owner and Medical Director of Metropolitan Pain and Spine Interventional Pain practice in Ellicott City, MD. Dr. Pearson has 30 years of experience as a Board Certified Anesthesiologist specializing in Interventional Pain Management. Dr. Pearson is Board Certified by the American Board of Anesthesiology and the American Board of Pain Medicine. Dr. Pearson specializes in interventional pain management involving the spine related to pain involving the neck and upper extremities as well as the low back and lower extremities using innovative skills and technology coupled with empathy and compassion. Dr. Pearson is a Top Doc in Interventional Pain Medicine and Anesthesiology by Find a Top Doc and the International Association of Anesthesiologists. Dr. Pearson is a member of the leading physicians of the world, Sigma Alpha Pi National Society of Leadership and Success, The American Academy of Pain Medicine, and several pain care organizations. Dr. Pearson is a graduate and past instructor at the Georgetown University School of Medicine in Washington, DC, where he completed his medical school training, internship, residency, and pain management fellowship training at the Georgetown University Hospital and Medical Center in Washington, DC.

Dr. Pearson maintains hospital privileges at MedStar Montgomery General Hospital and at The University of Maryland Capital Region Medical Center. Dr. Pearson is the Owner and Medical Director of the Medicare Certified and C-Arm Fluoroscopy equipped Metropolitan Spine Ambulatory Surgery Center.

Dr. Pearson is a Cum Laude graduate of the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) Saunders School of Business Executive Masters of Business Administration (MBA) program. Dr. Pearson has a special interest in interventional pain treatment injection procedures designed to attack pain generators including the use of advanced neuromodulation procedures such as spinal cord stimulation for treatment of complex pain like post spinal surgery syndrome and diabetic nerve pain.

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Offering a Full-Range of Chiropractic and Wellness Services:

- Spinal Decompression Aqua Massage
- Cold Laser Therapy Custom Orthotics
 - Massage Therapy Ultrasound
 - Infrared Light PadPhysical Therapy Modalities

959 Annapolis Road Gambrills, MD 21054

410-697-3566



Meet Dr. Alicia Kovach

Degrees/Training: Graduate of Palmer College of Chiropractic, DRX Training, Activator, Myofascial Release, Board Certified Physical Therapy and Webster Certification. Trained in the Thompson Technique, as well as in the latest evidence based Chiropractic treatments for Pediatric and Pregnancy Care

Associations: Maryland Chiropractic Association, International Chiropractic Pediatric Association

Areas of Interest: Maternity Care, Pediatric Care, Worker's Compensation, Personal Injury, Spinal Decompression for Herniated Discs

Pregnancy and Chiropractic

Regular chiropractic care is an integral part of the prenatal and postpartum care during pregnancy. It helps keep mom feeling good and assists her in coping with the physical stresses of an ever changing body.

Infants and Chiropractic

Chiropractic is a holistic approach to the treatment and management of health conditions. Chiropractic care encompasses a wide variety of safe, natural and noninvasive treatments. This includes chiropractic spinal adjustments, exercise and stretching programs, diet and nutritional counseling, soft tissue techniques, to name a few. In experienced hands, chiropractic care can provide your infant, child or adolescent with a lifetime of health and happiness.

Scoliosis in Children

Scoliosis is the lateral deviation of the spine and affects not only adults, but more commonly affects children and adolescents. The goal is to eliminate discomfort and prevent progression of the lateral curvature. If the curvature continues to progress severe spinal deformity can occur resulting in physical disability and cardiovascular compromise.

Sports and Children

Sports and regular physical activities not only serve as fun-time for children and teens, but more importantly, improves their overall health and wellness status while promoting a healthy lifestyle which they can carry into their adulthood years.

Nutrition and Children

The rate of childhood obesity has been rising significantly over the last 30 years. Studies have shown that obesity in childhood dramatically increases the odds of obesity in adulthood, a condition which compromises health and overall well being. Obesity is a difficult condition to treat as it requires a very high level of self-discipline in order to overcome. It is thus especially important to prevent obesity from occurring during childhood or seeking immediate and effective treatment if it does exist.

Children and Chiropractic Care

Dr. Kovach works collaboratively with the care team for the youngest of patients, and takes great pride in ensuring that they receive the best treatment. She has completed training with the International Chiropractic Pediatric Association (ICPA) and is truly passionate about treating the whole family at all stages of life. If you have any questions or would like more information on the services Dr. Kovach provides, please feel free to contact the office at 410-697-3566.



www.KovachChiropractic.com

Aric Adlam, DC

Offering a Full-Range of Chiropractic and Wellness Services:

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959 Annapolis Road Gambrills, MD 21054

410-697-3566



Meet Dr. Aric Adlam

Dr. Aric Adlam was born and raised in the suburbs of Detroit Michigan where he started receiving chiropractic care at the age of 2 years old. After a traumatic football injury threatened his future athletic career at the age of 16, Dr. Adlam turned down a risky spinal surgery for an all chiropractic approach. After missing only a half of a football season instead of the predicted 2 years; Dr. Adlam was back on the field. More importantly, Dr. Adlam had decided during that time that he had found his calling in life and decided to pursue a career as a Chiropractor.

Dr. Adlam received an undergraduate Bachelor of Science degree with an emphasis in Biological Sciences before entering chiropractic school. He then continued his education at Life University College of Chiropractic in Marietta, GA where he received his Doctorate of Chiropractic degree, fulfilling his dream of becoming a Chiropractor.

Dr. Adlam is highly trained in the diagnosis and treatment of soft tissue injuries often encountered in the spine, extremities and the rest of the body. He has extensive experience with the current state of the art spine rehabilitation technology and diagnostic equipment used in the treatment of spine related injuries. He has had success in treating many patients who have dealt with chronic neck and low back pain for years as well as headaches sufferers that found no relief in the traditional medical model. He has extensive expertise in the treatment of whiplash injuries that often result from automobile accidents. Dr. Adlam is also well trained in the diagnosis and treatment of bulging discs in the low back and neck utilizing the latest treatment methods available.

Dr. Adlam comes from a history of highly competitive sports and takes pride in getting the high performance athlete to the weekend warrior back in the game safely and effectively. He looks forward to bringing the patients of Kovach Chiropractic and Wellness Center the best chiropractic care possible.



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Megan Cloud, DC

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- - Massage Therapy Ultrasound • Infrared Light Pad
 - Physical Therapy Modalities

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410-697-3566



Meet Dr. Megan Cloud

Dr. Megan Cloud brings extensive experience to her role as a chiropractor at Kovach Chiropractic and Wellness Center. She caters and empowers people to take responsibility for their health. Since everybody is different, she utilizes multiple chiropractic techniques that fit her patient's body's needs.

Dr. Cloud received her Bachelors Degree from Salisbury University and completed her doctoral degree in Chiropractic at New York Chiropractic College. She constantly keeps herself up-to-date on the most progressive techniques available. Dr. Cloud is certified in a multitude of treatment varieties including dry needling, Webster technique for pregnant patients, as well as treating babies.

Dr. Cloud believes that patients should be active participants in their health care. She holds herself to the highest standard of care and is dedicated to creating a positive patient experience for every individual.

Dr. Cloud is very active, enjoys exercising, and was a competitive equestrian. In her spare time, she enjoys reading and taking her dog, Ella, on long walks.



www.KovachChiropractic.com

Jeffrey L. Brown, DDS

TMJ & Sleep Apnea Treatment



2841 Hartland Road Suite #301 Falls Church, VA

703-821-1103



Meet Jeffrey L. Brown

Dr. Brown's practice focuses on TMJ, sleep apnea and orthodontics. This allows Dr. Brown and his team to provide individualized, focused care for patients dealing with these specific issues. Every day, his practice helps patients of all ages with facial development, sleep issues, chronic headaches, migraines, neck pain, movement disorders, and much more. His training also includes multiple disciplines involving the cranial bones in the skull, and the discs in the jaw joints. Through treatment. Dr. Brown is able to reduce these symptoms, align cranial bones, avoid extractions, and greatly reduce the need for traditional braces.

His expertise allows him to identify issues early on which promotes proper facial development using dental appliances. If there is an internal imbalance, whether an adult or child, the body does not develop or function properly. When the cranial bones are lined up correctly, patients are able to function, sleep and generally

With that in mind, the team at Sleep & TMJ Therapy takes a whole-body approach when treatment planning. They work hand in hand with physical therapists and osteopathic doctors for a better success rate. Dr. Brown is devoted to helping patients of all ages live a symptom free life.

Degrees & Certifications

Dr. Brown earned his degree from Georgetown Dental School and completed residencies with Emory University Hospital for Dental Sleep Medicine and the ALF Appliance Therapy Institute.

Outside the Office

When not seeing patients, Dr. Brown is a sought-after speaker. He has lectured all over the world, including D.C., Dubai, Seoul, London, Norway and Toronto. He has also been featured on Channel 9's Good Morning Washington, several podcasts, and numerous magazines and journals.

Professional Affiliations

Dr. Brown is a diplomate of the American Academy of Craniofacial Pain, a member of the American Academy of Dental Sleep Medicine, American Academy of Gnathological Orthopedic, Academy of Integrative Pain Management American Dental Association, a Fellow of the American Academy of Craniofacial Pain, and Legacy Provider for the ALF Interface Academy.

Do you have TMD or Sleep Apnea?

TMD Symptoms: Noise in the jaw joints when opening and closing your mouth, difficulty chewing, limited opening, tender facial muscles, ear ringing, uncomfortable bite, jaw locking, headaches, migraines, dizziness, vision issues as well as pain in the jaw area which can radiate to the ears, head, neck, shoulders, and back,

Sleep Apnea Symptoms: Snoring, waking up gasping for air, feeling tired and irritable in the morning, difficulty controlling weight, concentration problems, morning headaches, episodes of not breathing, waking with a sore throat, forgetfulness and mood changes.

If you believe you may be suffering from TMD or Sleep Apnea, don't wait... Call today to schedule a consultation with Dr. Brown: 703-821-1103.

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We are here to assist you to "Treat the cause... not the symptom." Melo Rejuvenation Laboratories, is a group of dedicated scientists, researchers, doctors and chemists who are committed to serving the wellbeing of humankind. That means going the extra mile in taking the complexity out of self education and spending the time with any individual who genuinely wishes to learn living a balanced life, what we call Omnistasis.

For nearly two decades, our company has done this by researching and producing products that get powerful results in your balanced and healthy lifestyle. We maintain the highest safeguards to ensure that all of our customers receive the highest quality, yet affordable, nutritional support products for the results they desire. Through our web sites, numerous distribution outlets, and distribution partners, we specialize in and proudly offer the finest anti-aging products to not only Internet consumers, but also traditional health food stores as well as specialty item stores. We provide our customers the choice of using advanced Internet ordering, or conveniently calling our state-of-the-art calling center.

At present, we have strategic partner alliances in place with doctors and researchers in many areas of nutrition science with a special focus on hormones, nutrition and balanced health. We are continually researching the very latest science and medical data to continually offer only excellence in natural anti-aging and weight loss supplements to ensure the highest level of customer loyalty and satisfaction.







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Meet Toni Nandini Greene

Mission: To help people to be comfortable in their own skin, to love themselves, like themselves and be themselves and most of all accept and forgive themselves. "I'm here for you".

Specialized Degrees: Hypnotherapy, G.I.A. of America Gem (stone specialist), Advanced Yoga Training in Rishikesh India, continuing yearly training of Yoga and Ayurveda in Rishikesh India. Certified Astrologer – Charts interpreted for as little as \$49. The Big 3: Sun, Moon, Rising Ascendant.

 ${\bf Associations:}\ Nath-(National\ Association\ of\ Transpersonal\ Hypnotherapists),\ NGH-(National\ Guild\ of\ Consulting\ Hypnotist),\ Y.A.\ (Yoga\ Alliance)$

Areas of Interest: Hypnosis for Everything, (Fears, Phobias, Nail biting and more), Ayurveda Yoga, Yoga for Couples, Yoga for Diabetes, Yoga Teachers Training, and Life Coaching.

Hypnosis is a very useful tool to use in alleviating or diminishing pain in the body by at least 50% to not having pain at all. Hypnosis is a process whereby you are lead into a deep state of relaxation. In this state of deep relaxation you become aware of the pain. In hypnosis you are put in a hypnotic trance. In this trance it is suggested that you become aware of your breathing; breathing is emphasized to help regulate your sympathetic nervous system.

The sympathetic nervous system is the system in the body that serves to accelerate the heart rate, constrict blood vessels and raise blood pressure. It also becomes out of balance because of our unawareness of our thoughts, and actions. Pain and disease in the body has a lot to do with the imbalances in the body due to our diet and lifestyle. Mental or physical stress and an unhealthy diet, including refined sugars, fried food and over indulgence in food and drink, can cause pain in the body as well. This is a major cause of inflammation in the body that causes pain.

Acidic foods, and left over or stale foods, build up toxins in the body and can cause pain and inflammation in the joints that cause joint pain such as arthritis, burning sensation, swollen ankles, knees, and legs. Hypnosis will help you through the hypnotic suggestion so that you are mindful of the foods you eat and the thoughts we think. Stress in the body and mind is intimately related with causing pain in the body.

We use hypnosis in controlling the thoughts to manage or alleviate the pain in the body. With positive suggestions to you in a hypnotic state (trance), you will be reminded to be mindful of the new suggested way of eating with awareness, and you will realize as a result of awareness the lack of pain in the body. Hypnosis is a useful, natural tool that can be used to manage pain, stop over eating, smoking, phobias and more. Hypnosis is used to ease the pain of surgery or excessive pills taken for pain management.

When the conscious part of the brain is temporarily relaxed the person focuses on relaxing and letting go of distracting thoughts, thereby allowing the mind to slow down the pulse and respiration. When the pulse and respiration is slowed, the heart rate and respiration is then slowed causing relief in the body and mind and the pain is released or just simply gone.

When using hypnosis for pain management there may need to be a series of sessions. There are different levels of pain, and discomfort we carry in the body and mind. The sessions can vary depending on the severity of the discomfort in the body and mind.

Hypnosis is a pain-free technique used in healing the body and mind. Hypnosis only requires your participation and willingness and it will happen, the pain will be gone from the body, or three degrees milder, or more. Give it a try.

yhm.news/Happy-Hour-Yoga

Renee Bovelle, MD Ophthalmology



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12200 Annapolis Road Suite #116 Glenn Dale, MD 20769

EnvisionEyeandLaser.com



Meet Dr. Bovelle

Board Certified, Ophthalmology by the American Board of Ophthalmology

Degrees, Training and Certificates: UCLA Medical School; Yale University Hospital for Residency; Louisiana State University for Cornea and Refractive Fellowship

Professional Memberships/Associations: American Academy of Ophthalmology; American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery; International Society of Refractive Surgery

Areas of Interest: All laser custom LASIK; Cataract Surgery; Botox; Dermal Fillers; Cornea Comprehensive Ophthalmology

Practice Philosophy: Envision Eye and Laser is committed to delivering superior ophthalmic care with state-of-the-art technology and patient education in a caring, compassionate environment. We cater to a diverse population of adults and work with your primary care physician to improve the quality of your overall health and life. Your best vision is our focus.

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David E. Harmon, Jr., DDS, MSD

Orthodontics

10264 Lake Arbor Way Mitchellville, MD

301-333-3900 www.harmonortho.com



Meet Dr. Harmon

Degrees, Training and Certificates: Master of Science in Dentistry in Orthodontics; DDS and BS from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, OH

Professional Memberships/Associations: Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of Maryland, Department of Orthodontics; Adjunct Assistant Professor at Case Western Reserve University, Department of Orthodontics, Cleveland OH; American Association of Orthodontists; President Mid-Atlantic Society of Orthodontists; Past President of the Maryland Society of Orthodontics; Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.; Former Member of Bishop McNamara High School's Board of Directors; Former member Prince George's County Community Education Foundation Board of Directors.

Areas of Interest: Building and networking computers, golf, and football

Family/Hobbies/Interests: Children, Kennedy and David III; Wife: Shonda W. Harmon, MBA, MPA





Maryland State Society of Orthodontists





Janice Trent, AuD

Hear the Sweet (((Sounds))) of Life

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6196 Oxon Hill Road Suite #240, Oxon Hill, MD

301-429-2920



Meet Janice Trent

Dr. Trent has a passion for helping people. She has practiced Audiology since 1984, in a number of clinical settings. Her diverse career has included 16 years of teaching and clinical supervision at Howard University, Washington, DC and Temple University, Philadelphia, PA. Dr. Trent has also worked as a clinical audiologist in hospital settings and private ENT practices.

Education:

Clinical Doctoral Degree – Audiology-University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

Master of Education – Audiology- Northeastern University, Boston, MA

Bachelor of Science – Communication Sciences and Disorders – Hampton University, Hampton, VA

Dr. Trent holds her Maryland State Licensure in Audiology. She is a Certified Clinical Audiologist (CCC-A) through the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). Presently, she serves on the Board of Directors for ASHA as Vice President for Audiology Practice.



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E. Taylor Meiser, Jr., DDS

Light Up Your Smile

37 Old Solomons Island Road Annapolis, MD

410-224-4411



Meet E. Taylor Meiser, Jr.

Degrees/Training: DDS, University of Maryland Dental School; General Practice Residency, San Diego Naval Hospital; Prosthodontics Residency, Naval Dental School, Bethesda; U.S. Navy Dental Corps Officer, Commander, USN, (retired).

Professional Memberships: American Dental Association, Maryland State Dental Association, Anne Arundel County Dental Society, Annapolis Dental Study Club, Chesapeake Implant Study Club, University of Maryland Alumni Association.

Practice Philosophy: To follow the "Golden Rule" in all aspects of professional dental care, providing outstanding quality dentistry in a caring, comfortable and comprehensive manner. Lighthouse Family Dentistry will "Light Up Your Smile."



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Craig A. Smith, DDS

General Dentistry/ Family Dentist

7201 Hanover Parkway Suite A Greenbelt, MD

301-446-1784



Meet Craig A. Smith

Dr. Craig Smith is committed to health through dentistry, ensuring you have optimal oral health which contributes to your overall health and well-being.

Quality service, advanced technology and a passionate commitment to education means patients receive the best that dentistry has to offer.

Dr. Smith's Philosophy: Always listen to the patient and in turn respond in an educational manner so that the patient will understand.

Degrees, Training, and Certificates: Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.) - Howard University College of Dentistry; 2 Year General Practice Residency; Chief Resident - Harlem Hospital Center (Affiliate of Columbia University); Certified Invisalign Provider

Professional Memberships: National Dental Association **Areas of Interest:** All phases of dentistry - cosmetic, implant, crowns and bridges, root canals, veneers, preventive care, Invisalign and whitening.

Hobbies: Mountain biking, racquetball, golfing, and boating. My interests are to continue to deliver quality dentistry and to further reach out to the community to help to increase the peace.

Additional: Many patients do not understand the importance of a healthy mouth, as health problems could arise. I want to educate all of my patients on health through dentistry.

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Meet Periodontist, Karl A. Smith, DDS, MS

Dr. Karl Smith specializes in periodontics and implantology. As a periodontist, Dr. Smith specializes in treatment of gum disease, the maintenance of periodontal health, cosmetic smile enhancement procedures, and dental implants to replace teeth that are missing. Although no one likes to go to the doctor or dentist, we strive to make your visits with us as comfortable and pleasant as possible. We strongly believe that our patients' comfort is an important part of quality dental care.

Dr. Smith believes that your right to choose a dentist is an important freedom. We work closely with your dentist, but a referral by a dentist is not required to visit our office. We also welcome referrals from patients and friends of the practice. Everyone that is interested in keeping their teeth for a lifetime should see a periodontist.

Dr. Smith's colleagues describe him as a gentle, easy-going person, and people come from near and far to experience the comfort and professionalism of his office and patient-oriented staff. He is consistently rated by his peers as a Top Dentist 2012-2021 in *Virginia Living, Washingtonian Magazine*, and *Northern Virginia Magazine*.

WHAT TO EXPECT ON A VISIT WITH DR. SMITH:

Dr. Smith says that "From the first phone call you will be treated with care and concern for your unique dental condition. Every question you have ever had about your dental health will be covered as well as any financial considerations you may have. It is my goal to care for each and every person that comes through my doors and to exceed your expectations from a dental office. I promise to always give you honesty and accuracy when it comes to your treatment. I will never start treatment without your full knowledge, understanding, and acceptance of your condition."

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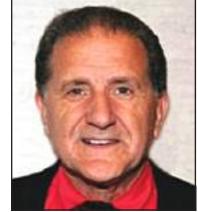
Degrees, Training and Certificates:

Doctor of Dental Surgery Degree from the University of California, Los Angeles 1981. After graduation immediately entered General Practice in the U.S. Air Force Dental Corps. Successfully completed three additional years of advanced training in the specialty of Periodontics, Dental Anesthesia and Implants in 1992 at the University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio and Wilford Hall USAF Medical Center. Retired from the U.S. Air Force as a Lieutenant Colonel after four years of reserve and fifteen years of meritorious world-wide active duty service in 1996. Fellowship in the Academy of General Dentistry and in DOCS, a sedation organization for dentists.

www.DrKarlSmith.com

Paul V. Beals, MD, CCN

Integrative Family Physician



120 Sallitt Drive, Suite F Stevensville, MD 21666

410-604-6344

Meet Paul V. Beals

Dr. Beals specializes in holistic therapy for cancer and heart disease and is an expert in chronic lime disease.

Degrees, Certifications and Professional Memberships:

Board Certified in Family Practice

Certified Clinical Nutritionist (CCN)

MD, Temple Medical School, Philadelphia PA

Member of the American College of Advancement in Medicine (ACAM) – Certified Chelation Therapist

Member of ILADS, International Lyme Associated Disease Society

Others:

Rotating internship, Harrisburg PA

Flight surgeon in the U.S. Air Force

Former volunteer instructor, Georgetown Medical School, introductory course on Alternative Medicine $\,$

Frequent guest on national TV and radio talk shows discussing complementary and alternative medicine

35 years in practice

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We believe in eating healthy food as close to its natural state as possible for the best health for you and your family. Our holistic nutrition includes unrefined, unprocessed, and organic whole foods.

Holistic Therapy Diabeties and Heart Disease

Our committed and professional staff will provide medical care to a family as a whole, with the main aim of working towards excellence, sincerity and a quality health care services. Holistic Therapy is very effective amongst heart and vascular patients.

Chronic Lyme Disease Treatment

Chronic Lyme Disease is part of our most prized specialties. Lyme disease is a common underlying cause of chronic illness. Dr. Beals is able to test for and treat these root problems of illness using both conventional methods and complementary therapies.

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With our LabCorp services, you have opportunities as our patient to participate in tests that can improve the quality of your life. You are entitled to carrying out our lab test which ranges from routine tests such as cholesterol tests and blood tests. This helps to diagnose some genetic diseases such as cancer and some other uncommon diseases.

Family Practice Medicine

Our committed and professional staff will provide medical care to a family as a whole, with the main aim of working towards excellence, sincerity and quality health care

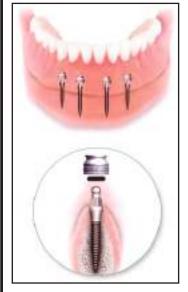
Integrative Cancer Support

The goal of integrative holistic medicine is to work with the patient as the center of the medical team and combine both traditional and complementary treatments to restore the patient to a better state of health. Whereas traditional medicine will focus on only treating the tumor.

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Technology





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The small size of mini implants often means that no incision needs to be made to place the implant. They can usually be inserted right through the gum into the bone. This eliminates the need for a recovery period, and the restoration can usually be placed a short time after.

Mini implants are also less expensive than regular implants. Only your dentist knows if mini implants are right for you, so call for your consultation today.



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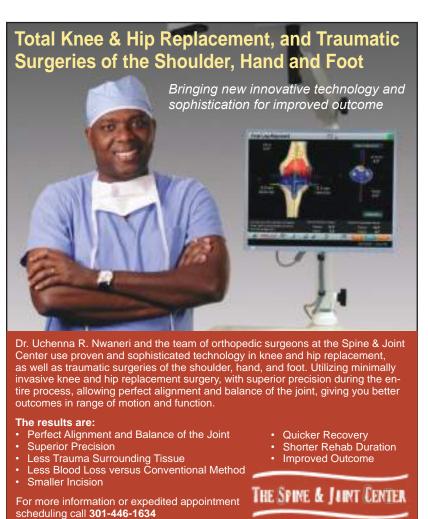
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Three Ways Non-Profit Hospices Help Military Veterans



By Bill Miller, Chaplain Hospice of the Chesapeake

When a person chooses to become a hospice patient, the first thing the care team does is get to know the patient and their family. We want to know as much as possible about each person as our care plan will vary depending on their life experiences. Culture, faith, family, work background and more all come into play.

One question we ask is whether our new patient served in the military. Each year, one out of four people who die in our nation are military veterans. That is a large segment of our population sharing a powerfully distinctive life experience. It is why the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization and the Department of Veterans Affairs created the We Honor Veterans program. Hospices that partner in the program have committed to understanding and providing for the unique needs of veterans. Here are three ways we honor their service.

- 1. Perform an honor salute The honor salute is a way for us to say thank you and welcome home. It's something many veterans haven't experienced in a long time, if at all. This is especially true for Vietnam vets, many of whom weren't treated well when they came home. At these living room or bedside ceremonies, the family will often learn things about the servicemember's time in the military - like medals they earned. It's an honor to be able to witness the pride of an elderly veteran who finds their strength to raise their hand to return a salute.
- 2. Support them with life review Toward the end, patients often talk about things they've done. It can be shocking to the family. Patients with post-traumatic stress disorder may have experienced a lot of anxiety, depression, addiction, outbursts and more. These things can cause additional trauma at the end of life. If it is something they want to share with the family, we can help them. After all, their families are partners in their journey, too.
- 3. Listen Unlike many civilians, veterans already understand the role a chaplain plays. In the military, especially on the battlefield, chaplains are there for everybody. Like hospice chaplains, they do not have a religious agenda and most often provide a listening ear. So, when I introduce myself as a chaplain to a veteran, it opens gateways. They know I'm here to listen. As a patient prepares for death, perhaps the most important thing hospice professionals and family and friends can do is listen.





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- Difficulty tolerating cold
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- Allergies
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Lifestyle Changes To Lower Cholesterol



By Thomas K. Lo, DC Advanced Chiropractic Center

If your blood cholesterol levels are not within the healthy range for your age and sex, your doctor may recommend heart-healthy lifestyle changes to help you lower or control your high blood cholesterol.

Often, changing behaviors will go a long way toward bringing your numbers into line. Some changes are eating healthy, being physically active, aiming for a healthy weight and quitting smoking

Eating a heart-healthy diet is the first step in lowering cholesterol. That would include reducing saturated fat and trans fat. The American Heart Association recommends limiting saturated fat to 5-6% of daily calories and minimizing the amount of trans fat you eat. Decreasing your consumption of saturated fats can reduce your LDL cholesterol and eliminating trans fats, sometimes listed on food labels as "partially hydrogenated vegetable oil," often used in margarines and store-bought cookies, crackers and cakes. Trans fats raise overall cholesterol levels. The Food and Drug Administration has banned the use of partially hydrogenated vegetable oils as of Jan. 1, 2021.

Eat foods rich in omega-3 fatty acids. Omega-3 fatty acids do not affect

Please see "Cholesterol," page 63

BEAUTY

From page 7

performs cosmetic procedures states that they're an expert, how can we find out who really is? Expert dermatologists and plastic surgeons are very involved in the field and have extensive experience and qualifications. Ask if your doctor is invited to teach as a Professor by universities, and at dermatology and plastic surgery academy conferences. You can also ask whether they serve as Principal Investigator for FDA clinical trials and other research that brings the newest cosmetic surgery technologies to our country. You can put their name and PUBMED into a Google Search to find out whether they are publishing scientific papers in high-level dermatology and plastic surgery journals. Expert clinics are typically well-equipped with the latest equipment and offer the most advanced techniques.

Look For Choices

True cosmetic surgery specialists offer many different treatment options, so that your action plan can be customized to address your own unique pattern of aging. Depending on your needs, your cosmetic surgeon should be able to offer you a wide range of

possible plans and solutions, and the reasons for your recommended action plan.

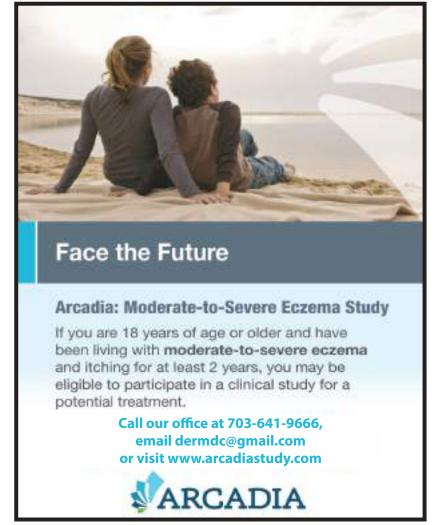
Look For the Latest Technology and Techniques

New technologies should be used by a cosmetic surgeon who understands skin of all ages, different genders and ethnicities and cultures, to safely and effectively rejuvenate women and men at any age and from all backgrounds.

What About Social Media?

Social media can be useful to find a dermatologist or plastic surgeon whose work you like. However, it's not a substitute for proper qualifications and training. Look carefully at what content is being posted – is it just before and after results, or is there also good educational information and indications that your doctor is a scientist, teacher and leader in the field?

If you follow these five key steps, you can select the right doctor to balance how you look with how you feel and project youth, energy, and vitality at any age – not only for the summer, but for a whole lifetime.



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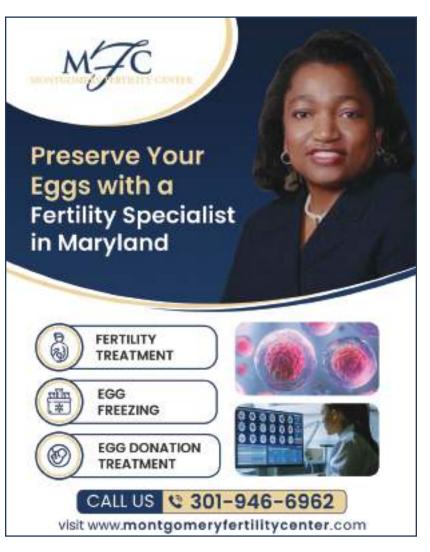








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Egg Freezing – Fertility and Women



By Yemi Adesanya-Famuyiwa, MD Montgomery Fertility Center

Egg freezing can be an option for women who have religious or ethical reasons for not creating supernumerary embryos (more embryos than are needed). It allows for the option of fertilizing only the eggs sufficient to make only the precise number of embryos that will be implanted.

Egg freezing is also an option for cancer patients seeking to preserve

their fertility potential prior to cancer treatment.

It can also be seen as an option for patients who have social or personal reasons for freezing their eggs. Many athletes may choose this option since their peak athletic performance may also coincide with the peak quality of their eggs.

Egg freezing is one of the most common services offered at fertility facilities, and the recovery rate for frozen eggs is about 90% or more in a highly skilled lab.

For women under the age of 35, it is recommended to freeze 10-20 mature eggs to have up to a 90% chance of a live birth using their eggs in the future.

For women older than 35 years, 20-30 mature eggs should be frozen to have close to 70% chance of a future live birth. Since older patients may have fewer eggs, they may need

Please see "Egg Freezing," page 63



Anne Arundel County wants you to Protect Yourself and Your Medicare



Protect your Medicare and Social Security numbers; never give them to a stranger.



Be cautious of calls from "Medicare" or "Social Security" as these are often scams.



Review your Medicare statements regularly for suspicious charges.



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All calls are confidential. 410-222-4257

This project was supported by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$31,869 with 100% funding by ACL/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by ACL/HHS, or the U.S. Government.









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Cerec Dental Technology



Submitted by E. Taylor Meiser, DDS Lighthouse Family Dentistry

A smile is one of our greatest personal assets; it is a reflection of happiness and good health, yet many people avoid smiling because they are concerned about the condition of their teeth. Proper dental care is critical to preserving and, when necessary, restoring your unique smile. And now, thanks to recent innovations in dentistry, proper dental care does not have to take away from your regularly scheduled life.

The dental profession is evolving, and so should your experience. New technology helps diagnose problems earlier, allowing dentists to treat problems sooner and with less invasive techniques. The latest in comfortable and convenient dentistry is now available with CEREC® tooth restoration system. Using the CEREC equipment, your dentist can now complete a color-matched ceramic tooth restoration – filling, crown or veneer – in a single visit. This technology uses bio-compatible, tooth-colored material, so your dentition won't be discolored by silver-colored fillings.

What Is CEREC?

CEREC is an acronym for Chairside Economical Restoration of Esthetic Ceramics. Translated, it means that a dentist can economically restore damaged teeth in a single appointment using a high-quality ceramic material that matches the natural color of other teeth.

How Does The Instrument Work?

CEREC uses CAD/CAM (Computer Aided Design/Computer Aided Manufacturing) technology, incorporating a camera, computer and milling machine in one instrument. The dentist uses a special camera to take an ac-

Please see "Cerec," page 63

How New Tech In the Dental Office Benefits You



By Judy Yu, DMD, MBA Dental FX

The iTero Element 5D is a wandshaped digital scanner that features an intraoral camera. The wand can be moved around the inside of a patient's mouth to essentially create five-dimensional impressions of your teeth. This makes your dentist's job easier when treating you, but, what exactly does this mean for you? This state-of-the-art diagnostic tool is used for a number of purposes, including finding cavities, to enhance Invisalign procedures, and to replace traditional dental impressions.

Finding Cavities Between Teeth

Cavities between teeth are often invisible to the naked eye, and dentists typically rely on bitewing X-rays to find them.

The iTero features an infrared camera that allows your dentist to identify cavities between teeth without an X-ray. So if your dentist has the iTero they can use traditional X-rays less frequently. As a result, patients can have a more comfortable experience, and exposure to radiation from X-ray technology is minimized.

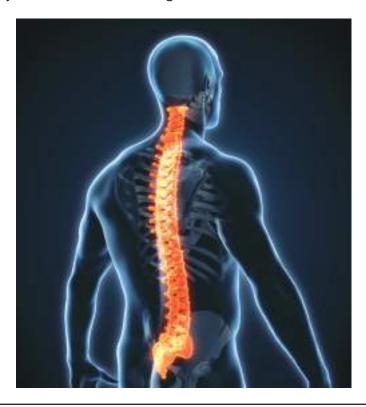
Enhancing the Invisalign Procedure

Please see "New Tech," page 62

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The Impact Of **Mental Illness**



By Joyce Abramson, RNMS Charles County Freedom Landing

The impact on people diagnosed with a serious mental illness is devastating. The devastation often is shared by family and friends. Anthony (1993) discusses four major areas of impact on the person – impairment, dysfunction, disability, and disadvantage. All are important when understanding mental illness and what is helpful to

Impairment refers to the impact physically and psychologically. There is increasing evidence that there is a neurobiological aspect to severe mental illness. Whether the source is genetic, viral, or a combination of factors, it results in physical and psychological symptoms such as hallucinations, delusions, paranoia. Symptoms may be influenced by the other areas and the psychological structure of the person.

People experiencing impairment and its symptoms often explain it as a loss or disruption of self. There is a disconnectedness to who you are. How to rebuild the sense of self is fundamental. Recovery requires building a functional sense of self that supports needs, wants, aspirations, and confronts the effects of stigma. Other interventions include coping strategies

Please see "Mental Illness," page 63

Let's Get Physical

Making Physical Activity a Part Of Your Family Life



By Janet V. Johnson, MD Loving Care Pediatrics

Regular physical activity is good for everyone's health, and people of all ages and body types can be physically active.

Benefits Of Regular Exercise

Everyone can benefit from regular exercise. Kids who are active will:

- have stronger muscles and bones
- have a leaner body because exercise helps control body fat
- be less likely to become overweight
- decrease the risk of developing type 2 diabetes

- · lower blood pressure and blood cholesterol levels
- have a better outlook on life

While enjoying the health benefits of regular exercise, kids who are physically fit sleep better. They are also better able to handle physical and emotional challenges, such as: from running to catch a bus to studying for a test.

There Are a Lot Of Ways To Get the Physical Activity You Need

Make sure your child or adolescent is doing three types of physical activity: aerobic activity, muscle strengthening and bone strengthening. To meet the guidelines for aerobic activity, basically anything counts, as long as it's done at a moderate- or vigorous-intensity for at least 10 minutes at a time for about 60 minutes a day. Many of the physical activities fall under more than one type of activity. For example, if your child is on a basketball team and practices with their teammates daily they are not only doing vigorous-intensity aerobic activity but also bone-strengthening.

Please see "Get Physical," page 65

Doesn't Your Child Deserve the **Best**?



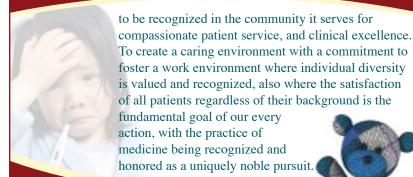
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Patrice Perkins, President and Founder of Your Brighter Outlook • inthesixties58@gmail.com

Can You Benefit From Braces?



By Jacqueline Brown Bryant DDS, MS, PC

If you believe the saying that "Your eyes are the windows to your soul," then you should understand that your smile is the key to self esteem and confidence. Your mouth or smile sends messages to everyone you meet, good or bad. According to the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO), people often base first impressions about individuals solely on the condition of their teeth.

"This phenomenon was docu-

mented more than 30 years ago in a study published in 1981," says Dr. Don Joondeph past AAO president, "When the focus groups looked at the altered photos, unflattering terms such as 'unattractive' and 'aggressive' were used. However, when groups saw photos of the same individuals with a healthy, beautiful smile, they were more likely to view the individuals as 'intelligent,' 'attractive' and 'a friend I'd like to have." Today's image-obsessed world makes these results more accurate. "More than ever, young people and adults want to be perceived as healthy, attractive and appealing to their peers and others." Dr. Joondeph believes that the first thing that people notice about young and adult patients is obvious: "The confidence and sense of self-esteem that comes with their healthy, beautiful smiles."

An orthodontic check-up no later than age seven can identify potential problems in growing children and

Please see "Braces," page 63

PHYSICAL THERAPY TO years working and serving the community EZ Rehab How to Your Aging From Eld



How to Protect Your Aging Parents From Elder Abuse



By Patrice D. Perkins-Pratt Your Brighter Outlook Life Coach / President

Caring for aging parents is a significant responsibility that many individuals will face in their lifetime. It can be an emotionally and physically demanding task that requires a lot of time and patience. Unfortunately, the reality is that there are people out there who prey on seniors when they are in need of care. As a result, it is important

to take steps to protect your loved ones and ensure that they receive the care they deserve.

If you are in a position where you need to care for your aging parents, it is crucial to be aware of the potential dangers. For instance, you should be careful about who you hire to care for your parents, as some caregivers may take advantage of them financially or otherwise. To avoid such situations, make sure to thoroughly research and vet any caregivers you consider hiring.

Additionally, it is essential to have proper documentation and proof of any agreements made with caregivers. Keep copies of contracts, receipts, and any other relevant documents, and make sure to check in with your loved ones frequently to ensure that everything is going smoothly.

If you do encounter problems, there are resources available to help

Please see "Aging Parents," page 66

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Are You In Pain? You Are Not Alone

Submitted by Kensington Pharmacy

You don't need to live with constant pain. Although chronic pain rarely goes away completely, your health care team has many options to make your pain more bearable.

No Gain From Pain

When it comes to pain, some people believe that they should "grin and bear it." Others feel that their health care team isn't interested in their pain.

In truth, poorly managed pain is bad for your health and can lead to other problems.

- Pain causes harmful changes to your body.
- Untreated pain can lead to anger, irritability, depression, and poor sleep. It can make the quality of your life worse.
- Persistent pain affects your relationships with family and friends, and your ability to do your job.

The longer you wait to address

your pain, the more difficult it becomes to treat. Your first step is to find a health care team that can help you.

Finding the Right Healthcare Team For You

Not all health care providers are well trained to assess and treat pain. Others may have personal biases against treating pain.

To find a treatment that works, you may need to interview several health care providers. Look for people who:

- Believe your reports of pain. (Don't work with anyone who tells you "it's all in your head.")
- Have experience treating pain.
- Thoroughly explain to you the risks and benefits of various treatments.
- Listen to your questions and make sure you understand their answers.
- Regularly assess your pain and monitor your progress.
- Refer you to a specialist if you are

Please see "In Pain?," page 65



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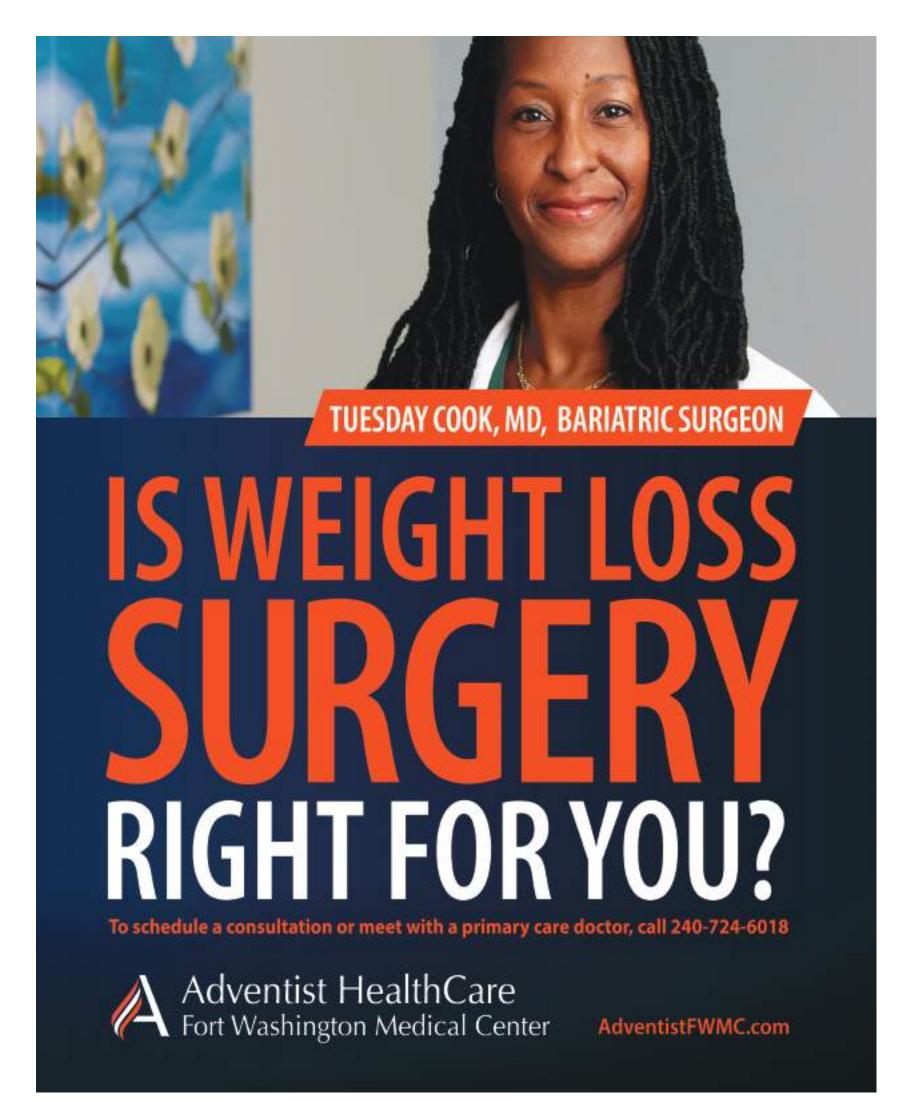
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Fire Cupping For Natural Pain Relief



By Ming Xu, LAc, DAOM Monterey Institute of Natural Medicine

Fire cupping, a Traditional Chinese Medicine practice, has gained popularity due to its potential to alleviate pain and promote overall well-being. This non-invasive therapy involves placing glass or ceramic cups on the skin to create a vacuum and stimulate blood flow, release muscle tension, and balance Qi (energy) within the body. Here are reasons why fire cupping is worth considering for pain relief.

Non-invasive: Fire cupping is an attractive option for those seeking pain relief without medications or invasive procedures. The cups help reduce inflammation, alleviate muscle tension, and promote healing, making it beneficial for chronic pain conditions such as lower back pain, neck pain, or joint pain.

Boosts circulation: The suction effect encourages increased blood flow, aiding in the healing process, delivering nutrients, removing waste products, and toxins. Improved circulation can also help reduce muscle soreness and stiffness, leading to enhanced mobility and flexibility.

Balances *Qi*: Fire cupping restores the proper flow of energy and alleviates pain associated with imbalances. By stimulating specific acupoints or meridians, it helps to balance the flow of *Qi*, promoting overall health and well-being.

Promotes relaxation: The gentle suction and warmth of the cups can

Please see "Fire Cupping," page 65

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Hammertoes Pain Of the Small Toes



By Ademuyiwa Adetunji, DPM Largo Foot & Ankle Health

A hammertoe is a contracture or bending of one or both joints of any but the big toe. This bending causes the toe to appear like an upside-down V when looked at from the side. Any toe can be involved, but the condition usually affects the second through fifth toes, known as the lesser digits. Hammertoes are more common in females than males.

Symptoms

• Pain upon pressure at the top of the bent toe from footwear.

- The formation of corns on the top of the joint.
- Redness and swelling at the joint contracture.
- Restricted or painful motion of the toe joint.
- Pain in the ball of the foot at the base of the affected toe.

A hammertoe is formed due to an abnormal balance of the muscles in the toes. This abnormal balance causes increased pressures on the tendons and joints of the toe, leading to its contracture. Heredity and trauma can also lead to the formation of a hammertoe.

Arthritis is another factor, because the balance around the toe in people with arthritis is so disrupted that a hammertoe may develop. Wearing shoes that are too tight and cause the toes to squeeze can also be cause for a hammertoe to form.

What Can You Do For Relief?

Apply a commercial, non-medicated hammertoe pad around the

Please see "Hammertoes," page 65





Dr. Robinson



Dr. Kostkowski



Dr. Lilly



Dr. Muzii



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1. You leave the office with a new set of teeth — on the same day

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How does it work? Your Certified TeethXpress Provider will work with a skilled dental laboratory technician to create a new set of teeth, custommade to fit your smile.

The TeethXpress procedure can offer you a new set of teeth for either your upper or lower jaw or both if necessary. Compare this process to a pair of loose-fitting dentures and it's no wonder this solution becomes such a clear choice for so many people.

Your new set of beautiful teeth will arrive at the dentist's office already prepared to be professionally inserted into your mouth.

The only thing required before the new teeth are put in your mouth is the placement of dental implants. Once this is achieved, a full set of beautiful teeth can then be connected, all on four, five or six dental implants.

In a matter of a few short hours, the TeethXpress patient can leave the dentist office with a gorgeous new smile they can be proud of.

2. A short healing period is necessary for full-mouth implants

There is a huge advantage to walking into a morning appointment and leaving by noon with a new set of teeth that look and feel natural. If you wear dentures or are missing several teeth due to gum disease or tooth decay, you can not ask for a better solution than this one.

Just be careful and follow the advice of your dentist.

3. The difference between whole-mouth and All-On-4®

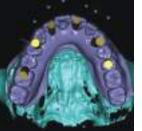
The All-On-4 dental implant pro-

cedure, by name, suggests four dental implants are placed in the jaw. Once the implants are placed, a complete set of upper or lower teeth can be immediately anchored down; All-On-4 dental implants.

Conversely, no specific number of

dental implants are suggested with the TeethXpress dental implant procedure. This is because TeethXpress providers acknowledge that each patient is different and often require different clinical needs to achieve a successful outcome. While one patient may only require four dental implants, another patient may require six.

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A 3-Dimensional Cone Beam CT scan along with an intraoral digital scan of the patient's dental arches, is used to virtually plan a precision surgical guide for implant placement.

is required for the best result, it does not necessarily mean the cost of your implant procedure will increase.

4. Dental implants are well worth the investment in your health

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Probating an Estate

Why Do I Have To Probate an Estate?



By Steven M. Katz, Attorney

Maryland has a law requiring you to file the existing Last Will and Testament with the proper Court, whether or not the deceased person has assets. This is not optional. If the deceased has any assets titled solely in their name alone, whether or not a Will exists, you must probate those assets by filing certain paperwork with the proper Court. Only the

Personal Representative appointed by the Court (usually the person named in the Will) has the power to transfer assets of a deceased person. If a Power of Attorney exists, it is void as of the date of death and can no longer be used. If the deceased had a car, a bank account, or any other asset titled solely in their name, the Personal Representative is the only person who can change the title, collect funds, withdraw funds or take other actions on behalf of the deceased. Most institutions (such as banks and brokers) and government agencies (such as the IRS and Social Security) will only talk to the Personal Representative. Before the named Personal Representative can act on behalf of the deceased or the estate, the Court, during the probate process, must approve the named person by issuing Letters of Administration. It is the Letters of Administration that gives the Personal Representative power to act on behalf of the estate.

What Is Involved In

Probating an Estate?

In Maryland, if the deceased dies owning assets solely in their name valued at less than \$50,000 (\$100,000 if the spouse is the sole beneficiary of the estate), the process is rather simple and is called a "Small Estate". The Personal Representative named in the Will files the Will and a few forms with the Register of Wills. The Court will then issue Letters of Administration and no further Court action is required. The assets can then be managed and distributed by the Personal Representative without further Court filings. The vast majority of Maryland residents have assets in excess of \$100,000.

If the Maryland deceased's estate has more than \$50,000/\$100,000 in assets, the Will and several probate forms must be filed with the Register of Wills located in the Circuit Court of the County in which the deceased resided. Notice must be placed in a newspaper giving creditors and potential unknown heirs the right to file a claim, and

the Personal Representative must obtain a bond in the amount determined by the Register of Wills. A bond is an insurance policy insuring against theft of estate assets by the Personal Representative.

Within twenty days after appointment the Personal Representative must file a list of "Interested Persons" (those persons named in the Will as a beneficiary, plus the heirs that would benefit if no Will exists). Within ninety days, the Personal Representative must file an "Inventory" which is a list of all assets the deceased owned solely in their name at death. Real estate and tangible personal property must be appraised.

Meanwhile, the Personal Representative must do a number of things, including but not limited to, paying all bills, collecting all income (such as dividends, interest and rents) managing all assets, preparing all tax returns, and filing (after six months but, before nine months), an Account with the court which states the items listed in the inventory, lists all changes to those assets such as sales, and reports all receipts and expenses. After this Account is audited by the Court and approved, the estate assets are distributed and the estate is closed. Sometimes additional time is needed, perhaps to sell real property, in which case additional Accounts are filed every six months.

Maryland has a third type of probate called a Modified Administration. This requires more paperwork than a Small Estate, but less than a regular probate - as described above. You must meet certain requirements to file a Modified Administration, so obtaining an attorney to assist you is recommended.

Do I Need an Attorney?

If the estate is a small estate (under \$50,000/\$100,000), you may want to handle the matter yourself or with the assistance of the Register of Wills in the local Circuit Court. If you are not completely comfortable or clear as to your duties and responsibilities, or need help with the probate forms, you can contact an attorney to assist you.

If the estate is a regular estate (over \$50,000/\$100,000), obtain the services of an attorney to assist you.

While there is no legal requirement that an attorney represent the Personal Representative, obtaining the assistance of an attorney that has experience with probating estates can help speed up the process and can help prevent potential problems and errors, some of which can have substantial repercussions.

Most people do not have experience with managing an estate and do not realize the work and time that it can entail. An attorney with experience in probating estates will be familiar with the requirements and potential problems that are involved with estates.

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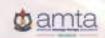
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The iTero can be used to simulate Invisalign treatment, allowing a patient to see what his or her smile would look like after treatment is completed.

Replacing Traditional Dental Impressions

Reducing how often traditional dental impressions need to be taken is one of the most notable benefits of this new dental technology.

For traditional dental impressions, dentists place impression material into a tray, and the patient must bite down into it for about five minutes. This can be challenging for patients.

Taking traditional impressions is not only time-consuming, but they are goopy and may not taste pleasant, making patients uncomfortable when they have to hold the trays in place for

a period of time.

With the digital scanner, the dentist can obtain a digital impression without using the traditional method, and the scanner may even provide better results since it is more accurate than traditional impressions. There can be more distortions with traditional impressions.

This digital tool can also be used to create bite guards for athletes or TMJ patients, as well as to track changes in a patient's teeth over time.

Another benefit is that digital impressions also provide your dentist with the ability to compare scans from different time periods. They can overlay a present-day scan with one from the past to see how things have changed over time.

FOREFOOT

From page 23

Bone Spurs

A bone spur is an overgrowth of bone, as a result of pressure, trauma or reactive stress of a ligament or tendon. This growth can cause pain and even restrict motion of a joint, depending on its location and size. Surgical treatment and procedure is based on the size, location and symptoms of the bone spur. Your podiatric physician will determine the surgical method best suited for your condition.

Article provided by the American Podiatric Medical Association.

All-On-Four

From page 26

four precisely placed implants on the top of your mouth, and four on the bottom, to restore your full smile. That's the beauty of the all-on-four. And because the implant is made of titanium, it has the unique ability to fuse to living bone and function as part of it. So eventually, the dental implant becomes part of the jawbone and serves as a strong, long-lasting foundation for your new teeth.

Besides ensuring that your implants are permanently fixed in place, this bone fusion has another important benefit: it prevents future bone loss in the jaw. This helps to maintain a more youthful facial structure – and better oral health. But perhaps the biggest surprise about the all-on-four is how quickly it can transform your life.

What's The All-On-Four Dental Implant Procedure Like?

It can be scary to get implants for the first time. Most of that fear is probably due to the uncertainty, so here is the step-by-step process for getting an All-On-Four dental implant.

First, your dentist will want to make sure your comfortable, so either local or general anesthesia will be administered.

Second, the dentist or surgeon

will prepare your mouth for the implants, which involves removing your remaining teeth that are failing. They will then remove any diseased or infected tissue from your jaw and gums.

Next, they will begin the implantation process. This means they will insert the titanium screws into your jawbone. Most likely, they will place two implants toward the front of your mouth and two towards the back of your mouth so the "anchors" can evenly bare the force of the denture.

After the implants have been placed, they will thoroughly clean the surgical sites and suturing all the incisions. Then you'll be taken to a recovery room where you can relax and take time to wake up from the anesthesia.

How Do You Know If The All-On-Four Procedure Is The Right Option For You?

At your All-On-Four consultation, you'll receive a 3D CT Scan. This scan will help determine if you need implants and assist your doctors in creating your treatment plan. So if you want to learn more about dental implants, simply schedule a consultation with an All-On-Four provider. It's the best way to find out how dental implants can change your life.

SLEEP APNEA

apnea. Surgical treatments have been used to remove tissue from the airway aiming to increase the airway patency and allow better oxygen flow.

Role Of Bariatric Surgery For Treatment Of Sleep Apnea

For morbidly obese individuals, weight loss has been shown to provide an effective long-term treatment for sleep apnea. Weight loss leads to a reduction of excess tissue around the airway leading to an increase in patency and better oxygen delivery to the body. Studies have shown that both medical and surgical weight loss have produced significant results in the improvement and elimination of

sleep apnea.

Surgical weight loss procedures such as gastric bypass and sleeve gastrectomy have been shown to produce effective and sustainable weight loss which results in elimination of sleep apnea for many patients undergoing bariatric surgery (weight loss surgery). Many patients are then able to breathe better at night, have improved energy during the daytime, and are able to stop using their CPAP devices.

The results from bariatric surgery are based on using the procedures as a tool and a commitment to lifestyle changes that promote weight loss and healthy living.

EPILEPSY

From page 27

effective in reducing the frequency and severity of seizures in some people with epilepsy. In one study, participants who received acupuncture had a 50% reduction in seizures compared to those who did not receive acupuncture.

Herbal remedies are also commonly used in TCM to treat epilepsy. Some herbs, such as Gastrodia elata, Uncaria rhynchophylla, and Poria cocos, have been shown to have anticonvulsant properties and can help to reduce seizures. These herbs can be taken as a tea or in pill form, and should only be used under the guidance of a licensed TCM practitioner.

Dietary therapy is another important aspect of TCM treatment for epilepsy. According to TCM theory, certain foods can exacerbate or alleviate seizures. For example, foods that are warm and dry, such as spicy foods and alcohol, can increase the risk of seizures, while foods that are cool and moist, such as vegetables and fruits, can help to reduce seizures. TCM practitioners may recommend spe-

cific dietary changes for people with epilepsy to help reduce the frequency and severity of seizures.

Mind-body practices such as meditation, qigong, and tai chi can also be beneficial for people with epilepsy. These practices help to reduce stress and promote relaxation, which can help to reduce the frequency and severity of seizures.

Traditional Chinese Medicine offers a holistic approach to treating epilepsy that addresses the root cause of the condition and promotes overall health and well-being. TCM therapies, such as acupuncture, herbal remedies, dietary therapy, and mindbody practices, can be used alone or in combination with conventional Western medicine to manage epilepsy symptoms and improve quality of life. If you are considering using TCM for epilepsy, it is important to work with a licensed TCM practitioner who can provide personalized recommendations based on your individual needs and health history.

TREATMENT

From page 12

nal misalignments in the body, which can irritate nerves, bones, ligaments and discs. Any accident, no matter how minor, can create nerve-damaging misalignments.

Pregnant woman often turn to chiropractic care to help alleviate pains associated with pregnancy. The additional weight and stress on the body during pregnancy can cause pain in almost any part of the body.

Babies and children grow quickly with their muscles, ligaments and bones developing rapidly. A jump, tumble or fall can jar the body and affect the spine and possibly the nervous system. Simple factors like a heavy backpack or an ill-fitting car seat can have negative effects.

The golden years have numerous physical problems associated with aging. With the attention given to prescription drugs and/or surgery, little attention is paid to actually fixing these problems. Chiropractors understand the effects of aging and have been helping older folks deal with their aches and pains.

We focus on your pain, so you can focus on more important things.

radon regulations to help ensure the safety of their residents. The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland, Montgomery County Code; Chapter 29, Landlord-Tenant Relations; Section 29-30 is being amended and Section 29-35E is being added and will be effective as of July 1st, 2023.

Per Section 33C, a landlord of a single-family home or multifamily dwelling building must conduct a radon test before leasing a unit to a prospective tenant. Test results must be within three years before the date of the lease.

Companies such as Environmental Solutions, Inc. is able to provide the required radon sampling as needed to help ensure you remain compliant with county regulations, and to help keep you and your family safe from unhealthy levels of radon. Don't wait, take action and get your home tested for radon today.

CHOLESTEROL

From page 44

LDL cholesterol and have other hearthealthy benefits, including reducing blood pressure. Foods with omega-3 fatty acids include salmon, mackerel, herring, walnuts and flaxseeds.

Increase soluble fiber. Soluble fiber can reduce the absorption of cholesterol into your bloodstream. Soluble fiber is found in such foods as oatmeal, kidney beans, fruits and vegetables. A diet high in fiber can help lower cholesterol levels by as much as 10%.

A heart-healthy diet also emphasizes curbing sugary foods and beverages. To be smarter about what you eat, you may need to pay more attention to food labels.

Exercise can also improve cholesterol. It can help raise HDL cholesterol, the "good" cholesterol. With your doctor's okay, work up to at least 30 minutes of exercise five times a

week or vigorous aerobic activity for 20 minutes three times a week. Adding physical activity, even in short intervals several times a day can help you begin to lose weight, which can also lower cholesterol. Consider taking a brisk daily walk during your lunch hour, riding your bike to work or playing a favorite sport. Try incorporating more activity into your daily routine by using the stairs instead of taking the elevator or parking farther from your office.

Quitting smoking improves your HDL cholesterol level. The benefits occur quickly: Within 20 minutes of quitting, your blood pressure and heart rate recover from the cigarette-induced spike. Within three months of quitting, your blood circulation and lung function begin to improve. Within a year of quitting, your risk of heart disease is half that of a smoker.

EGG FREEZING

From page 46

more than one cycle.

To get started an initial work up including testing of your reproductive hormones, usually on the second to fourth day of the menstrual cycle is needed.

Various protocols can be used to

stimulate the ovaries in order to collect the eggs. The stimulation of the ovaries can take 10 days followed by collection, also called retrieval of the eggs.

Egg collection is done under mild sedation provided by board certified anesthesiologists.

CEREC

From page 48

curate picture of the damaged tooth.

This optical impression is transferred and displayed on a color computer screen, where the dentist uses CAD technology to design the restoration. Then CAM takes over and automatically creates the restoration while the patient waits. Finally, the dentist bonds the new restoration to the surface of the old tooth. The whole process takes about one hour.

What Does This Innovation Mean For a Patient?

A tooth-colored restoration means

no more silver fillings discoloring smiles. The filling is natural-looking, compatible with tissue in the mouth, anti-abrasive and plaque-resistant.

Dentists no longer need to create temporaries or take impressions and send them to a lab. Because of this, the traditional second visit has been eliminated.

CEREC has two decades of clinical research and documentation to support the technology. The restorations have been proven precise, safe and effective.

MENTAL ILLNESS

and satisfying social relationships.

Dysfunction addresses the inability to carry out the activities of life considered normal to us as human beings. Tasks such as walking, thinking, or making a meal may be difficult. The cause may be the symptoms previously mentioned, medication side effects or lack of confidence resulting from the disruption of self or stigma. Skills training, support, and rehabilitation improve the levels of dysfunction. As any of these areas of impact improve, the other areas appear to improve as well.

Disability implies a broader concept than dysfunction and limits the ability to perform larger life roles such as working, having a family, and maintaining an apartment. Successful rehabilitation in other areas will also ef-

fect the disability in a positive manner.

Disadvantage refers to the lack of opportunity to make a life for one's self. The cause is often stigma, discrimination, and poverty. Normally, disadvantage comes from outside the person, from a society's biases and perceptions. It further erodes the fragile sense of self that has been effected by impairment, dysfunction, and disability. Advocacy and education that can influence feelings and beliefs help to reduce disadvantage.

Understanding how a serious mental illness, such as schizophrenia or bipolar disorder, impinges on a person's being and ability to function gives direction to the roadmap of recovery. Each person's roadmap will have it's own twists, turns and detours as the journey continues toward wellness.

SHINING

From page 9

The grip that chronic pain has on a client can't be understated, as my goal is to help lessen it with massage therapy techniques, essential oils, heat/ice, energy work, phototherapy patches, prayer, and stretching.

Timeless Holistic Modalities

Acupuncture – known for pain relief, this helps restore qi or energy flow to injured tissue and help clear out dampness from the trauma to facilitate healing. https://www.health.harvard.edu/healthbeat/relieving-pain-with-acupuncture

Phototherapy Pain Patches – light therapy that uses the body's heat to emit wavelengths of light, through this non-transdermal patch on skin placed on acupuncture meridians, to open the flow of energy and be a catalyst for pain relief. Simple, safe, non-drug application. www.lifewave.com/lpenkala/

Massage Therapy – ancient civilizations around the globe found natural healing via massage for healing, pain relief and deep relaxation. Today, massage is prescribed by

physicians and chiropractors for improving circulation, flexibility, and lessening pain. https://www.abmp.com/updates/legislative-updates/abmp-comments-re-draft-report-painmanagement-best-practices.

Chiropractic – manipulation of the body's spinal alignment to relieve pain and improve function to facilitate healing. From the American College of Physicians Low Back Pain Guideline, the positive research offers this as one alternative to pain medications along with heat, massage and acupuncture!

https://www.health.harvard.edu/pain/chiropractic-care-for-pain-relief

Grounding Mat/Sheets – if walking/contacting the earth (grass, sand) is not possible, www.earthing. com has a plethora of mats, sheets to sleep on, sandals, their book *Earthing*, all to become grounded, to the earth's electrons. Simply plug it into the single grounding plug of your outlet, and begin feeling pain relief from less inflammation.

BRACE

From page 52

ensure that any future treatment is timed appropriately. For adults, an orthodontic consult may reveal that cosmetic dentistry, periodontal therapy, endodontic therapy, oral surgery or prosthodontic treatments are necessary. A team approach is necessary to assure that comprehensive treatment plans are recommended. There are really no conditions that can not be "treated" due to the complex nature and amount of treatment needed. In some cases, straightening malaligned teeth can treat certain conditions you may not realize are related to your teeth, such as headaches, jaw pain and digestive problems. Make an appointment with an orthodontic specialist to see how you can benefit from treatment.

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Eastern Medical Holistic Healing Center – Angel Wood – 240-755-5925 – www.Acupuncture4Wellness. Webs.com.

West Annapolis Acupuncture – Brittney de Vicq, LAc, MAc – 410-375-9716 – BrittneyAcupuncture. com – Annapolis, MD.

CHINESE MEDICINE & ACUPUNCTURE

Quansheng Lu, CMD, PhD, LAc – www.WholelifeHerb.com – 301-340-1066.

CHIROPRACTIC

Kovach Chiropractic & Wellness Center – Alicia Kovach, DC – 410-697-3566.

Effective Integrative Healthcare – Crofton 410-774-0644 – Millersville 410-729-2200 – Lanham 301-577-6556.

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Lighthouse Family Dentistry – E. Taylor Meiser, DDS – 410-224 4411 – Annapolis, MD.

Karl A. Smith, DDS – Waldorf, MD – 301-638 -4867.

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HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Taylored 4 Life Wellness, Inc. – Gregory Taylor, MS – 301-979-9010 – Taylored4LifeWellness.com – Largo, MD.

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At Home Care, Inc. – 301-421-0200 – AtHomeCareInc.com – Since 1977.

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Taylor Integrative Health – Janay Taylor – 410-292-0483.

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Millennium MediSpa – 301-652-9005 – www.AnythingCosmetic.com.

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House Calls, LLC – 301-346-6732 – CallingOnBeth@gmail.com – www. CallingOnBeth.net.

Luminox Healthcare Services – 240-553-7970 – LuminoxHealth.com.

MRI

Washington Open MRI, Inc. – 6 Locations: 15005 Shady Grove Road, Suite #110, Rockville, MD 20850; 7399 Hanover Parkway, Greenbelt, MD 20770; 6196 Oxon Hill Road, Suite #110, Oxon Hill, MD 20745; 5530 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite #529, Chevy Chase, MD 20815; 9135 Piscataway Road, Suite #106, Clinton, MD 20735; 25 Crossroads Drive, Suite #180, Owings Mills, MD 21117 – www.WashingtonOpenMRI.com – 301-908-8279.

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Metropolitan Pain & Spine – Dr. Levi Pearson, III, MD, MBA – 9501 Old Annapolis Road, Suite #305, Ellicott City, MD 21042 – www.Metropolitan-Spine.com – 410-772-6312.

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Pain & Rehab Center, LLC – Dr. Gelareh Naenifard, DC – 5855 Allentown Road, Suite #19, Suitland, MD 20746 – www.PainRehabCenterMD. com – 301-925-2013.

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create a soothing sensation, relieving stress and tension held within the body. This relaxation response can aid in reducing pain by promoting the release of endorphins, the body's natural pain-relieving hormones.

Versatility and adaptability: Fire cupping can address a wide range of health concerns, making it a versatile and adaptable therapy for pain relief. It can be integrated into a comprehensive treatment plan, working synergistically with other healing modalities such as acupuncture, massage, or physical therapy.

Minimal side effects: Fire cup-

ping is generally safe and well-tolerated, with minimal side effects such as mild discomfort, redness, or bruising that subside within a few days.

In conclusion, fire cupping is a unique and effective therapy for pain relief. Its non-invasive nature, potential to improve circulation, ability to balance Qi, and relaxation benefits make it a worthwhile consideration for those seeking an alternative approach to pain management. As with any new treatment, it is essential to consult a qualified healthcare professional before undergoing fire cupping to ensure it is appropriate for specific needs and health concerns.

FIBROMYALGIA

From page 12

significantly improve the well-being of people with fibromyalgia.

First, getting a good full night of restorative sleep is absolutely critical. Many people with fibromyalgia will say it has been years since they have had a decent night's sleep. Using a combination of lifestyle changes, relaxation techniques, herbal formulas and prescription medications can get people sleeping which is often the first step in getting well.

Correcting the common nutritional and hormonal deficiencies of this condition is critical. And it is important to see a physician who recognizes that the "normal" laboratory reference ranges for nutrients and hormones may not be optimal, especially for people who are struggling with their health. Optimizing thyroid, testosterone and estrogen status may go a long way to restoring health and vitality.

Gastrointestinal problems are often present and must be addressed, both to enhance nutrient absorption and to reduce inflammation and discomfort.

Bacterial and yeast overgrowth is common as are food allergies, including the under-recognized phenomenon of celiac disease and gluten intolerance. There are relatively simple ways to treat these issues that make a big difference for people.

And finally pain must be controlled. For many patients pain becomes a sort of vicious cycle, with pain causing muscle spasm, sleep disruption and inflammation, which only causes more pain. There are both natural and prescription methods for effectively addressing chronic pain.

To sum it up, fibromyalgia is common, but once addressed can be treated effectively so people can return to having a life they love.

GET PHYSICAL

From page 50

It's easy to fit each type of activity into your child's schedule.

Stick With It

There are many things you can do to get and keep your child active physically, that can help shape their behavior and attitude toward physical activity. Start by choosing physical activities you and your child enjoy and that match your child's abilities, it will help ensure that you both stick with them. Encourage them to be physically active for one hour or more each day, with activities ranging from informal, active play to organized sports. If you're not sure where to start, here are some examples.

- Physical activity should be a part of the family's daily routine.
- Set a positive example by leading an active lifestyle yourself.

- Be positive about the physical activities in which your child participates and encourage them to be interested in new activities.
- Make physical activity fun. Fun activities can be anything that your child enjoys, structured or nonstructured sports.
- After dinner, encourage your child to find fun activities with friends and family.
- Always provide protective equipment and ensure that the physical activity is developmentally and age-appropriate.

If your child has a chronic health condition or other symptoms be sure to talk with the doctor about the types and amounts of physical activity that are right for them.

In Pain

not getting adequate relief.

When you interview healthcare providers, ask these questions:

- Do you have experience treating my condition?
- How would you describe effective pain management?
- What treatment options are available for me?
- How will you select my treatment plan?
- How much relief can I expect to receive from these treatments?
- What side effects should I look for? How can I manage them?
- What are the short-term and longterm outlooks for my condition?

Once you have found a good team, the next step is yours. Not everyone is comfortable talking about pain, but your team needs accurate information to treat you. Provide these details:

- How long you have had pain.
- Where the pain hurts the worst.
- What treatments you have tried on your own, and how they have

worked for you.

- What makes the pain better or worse.
- How the pain feels. For example, is it sharp, dull, or achy?
- How the pain interferes with your activities, including work, dealing with family and friends, and ability to care for yourself.

Once your healthcare team understands your pain, a treatment plan is the next step. Your doctor may suggest medication. Some medications are available over-the-counter.

Others, you can only get with a prescription. Doctors rely on several families of drugs to treat pain:

- NSAIDs used to treat mild to moderate pain and inflammation. Aspirin and ibuprofen are both NSAIDs.
- Acetaminophen also used to treat mild to moderate pain.
- Opioids prescribed to people who have moderate to severe pain.

In addition to medications, other treatments such as massage, physical therapy, relaxation therapy, and behavioral and psychological therapy may be helpful.

HAMMERTOES

From page 56

bony prominence of the hammertoe. This will decrease pressure on the area.

- Wear a shoe with a deep toe box.
- If the hammertoe becomes inflamed and painful, apply ice packs several times a day to reduce swelling.
- Avoid heels more than two inches tall.
- A loose-fitting pair of shoes can also help protect the foot while reducing pressure on the affected toe, making walking a little easier until a visit to your podiatrist can be arranged.
- Avoid wearing shoes that are too tight or narrow. Children should have their shoes properly fitted on a regular basis, as their feet can often outgrow their shoes rapidly.

 See your podiatric physician if pain persists.

Treatment options include changing footwear, padding the corns and calluses that form, trimming the corns and calluses, custom orthotic footwear or devices, anti-inflammatory medications and splinting the affected toe. Surgery is recommended in some severe cases.

The treatment options vary with the type and severity of each hammertoe, although identifying the deformity early in its development is important to avoid surgery. Podiatric medical attention should be sought at the first indication of pain and discomfort because, if left untreated, hammertoes tend to become rigid, making a nonsurgical treatment less of an option.

PAINFUL SEX

round-tipped cylinders, graduated in size – that are used to stretch and relax the vaginal muscles. (Go to https://www.menopause.org/for-women/sexual-health-menopause-online/effective-treatments-for-sexual-problems/sexual-devices, for more information.)

It may take some extra work, a bit

From page 18

of adjustment, and a sense of humor certainly helps, but sex beyond your 40s can be fun and satisfying. Be sure to talk to your GYN about pain that persists and don't be shy about talking to a sex therapist. Countless studies have shown the health benefits of a happy sex life, so take advantage of that empty nest. Say YES to sex!



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What Is Cupping Therapy?



By Brittney de Vicq, MAc, LAc West Annapolis Acupuncture

Cupping is a treatment method that uses glass, plastic or silicone cups to create suction to pull the skin and muscles.

The suction and negative pressure provided by cupping can loosen muscles, encourage blood flow, alleviate stagnation, reduce pain and sedate the nervous system. Cupping is used to relieve back and neck pain, shoulder pain, stiff muscles, fatigue, and a variety of other musculoskeletal injuries.

There are two different types of cupping methods commonly used. The first type is "retained" or "stationary cupping"; this is when the cups stay in one location for the duration of the treatment.

The second type of cupping is "sliding" or "running cupping"; this is when the cups are moved over certain affected areas. Running cupping can feel more intense but has the ability to move out more stagnation, resolve pain, and affect change in a shorter period of time.



Depending on the cupping style being used and the conditions being treated, cups will stay on a patient anywhere from 5-15 minutes.

In order to receive the best possible cupping treatment make sure that your acupuncturist has received certification from a nationally recognized organization in cupping therapy such as the International Cupping Therapy Association.

AGING PARENTS

From page 52

you. For instance, you can contact your local Department of Social Security and ask to be connected with the Adult Services department. They can provide you with resources and support to help ensure that your loved ones receive the care they need.

Caring for aging parents is not an easy task, but it can be made easier by being informed and proactive. By taking the time to do your research, stay organized, and seek out help when needed, you can help ensure that your loved ones receive the care and support they deserve. Remember, being a caregiver is a noble responsibility, and it is up to us to do what we can to make it as comfortable and safe as possible for our loved ones.

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Through commitment to research and education, Dr. Sundaram has been involved in pivotal studies of many of the advanced aesthetic technologies available in North America, and teaches them nationally and internationally to dermatologists and plastic surgeons

and plastic surgeons, and one of a handful of experts serving as an advisor and director of advanced medical education programs, I'm confident that you will achieve the best possible results when you entrust your face and body to our hands. As a daily practitioner of yoga, I understand the value of a holistic approach. Above all, my team and I promise to give you straight answers. We'll steer you through the hype and jargon, and help you restore the inner-outer balance that empowers us in every aspect of our lives. Dr. Hema Sundaram, MA, MD, FAAD • Board Certified in Dermatology • Fellow and Visiting Professor for the American Society for Dermatologic Surgery $(ASDS) \bullet Fellow\ of\ the\ American\ Academy\ of\ Dermatology.$ • Premier medical training at Cambridge University (England), University of Chicago and NIH. · Internationally recognized physician teacher, researcher and author. International Speaker and Course Director at Dermatology and Plastic Surgery Academies. · International Physician Trainer and Advisor.

and body contouring and vaginal rejuvenation.

• North American Chairperson of the Global Aesthetics Alliance and Global Aesthetics Consensus Group for Procedural Safety.

Your skin is the largest organ in your body and, together with your hair and nails,

the mirror of everything that's happening internally. After over twenty years as a

fellowship-trained, Board Certified dermatologist and as a cosmetic surgeon, I am

completely convinced of the positive effects of integrating medical and cosmetic

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My mission in my North American and global research is to elucidate the scientific basis of new and emerging technologies, and how this science can be applied to achieve the best and safest procedural outcomes. As a Principal Investigator for studies of new technologies, a national and international teacher of dermatologists

treatments to balance how you look with how you feel. When that balance is

are inside. Others may assume that an older, stressed or worried appearance

ence to look in the mirror, and love the reflection that's looking back.

- Author of book chapters and scientific papers in plastic surgery and dermatology academy journals.
- Author of "Face Value: The Truth About Beauty and a Guilt-Free Guide To Finding It" selected for the National Press Club Authors' Night.
- Quoted as an expert in leading publications including The New York Times, USA Today, Prevention, Good Housekeeping, Allure, Marie Claire, Essence, Cosmopolitan, Self and Woman's World.
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SEE PAGE 7 FOR MORE INFORMATION