

SOME CONSIDERATIONS WHEN SELECTING A DENTAL HEALTH TEAM

Please be aware that when patients base their choice of dental office entirely upon the lowest fees, patients should be aware that all dental treatment is definitely not the same.

Patients should ask themselves:

- Are the materials utilized of the same quality
- Is the “cheapest” office utilizing proper sterilization techniques
- Is the staff properly trained
- Is the staff being reimbursed properly for their expertise, or is the office taking advantage of employees by just hiring “part timers”
- Does the office provide health insurance and benefits for the staff, in order to maintain a professional and properly trained staff
- What is the expertise and training of the Doctor and does he care about the quality of treatment he provides, or does he choose to rush through treatment

Proper materials, sterilization, time, care and consideration, postgraduate education, and properly trained staff, all incur expenses ... all these items cost money to provide for proper and ethical patient treatment and care.

Do you want your dental office to be a “drill, fill, and bill mill” or do you want to be treated by the golden rule? Do you want to be just a piece of merchandise, where the office sees how quickly they can get you in and out?

Are the dental cleanings done with proper instrumentation? Are proper measurements of the gum and bone level being made? Are the hygienists paid on a quota system where there is a tendency to just rush the patients through? Does the hygienist spend time with you to educate you so you know the difference between a healthy mouth and a mouth where ongoing disease is just being maintained? Are you given voice activated, computer generated, understandable charts of your gum attachment depths so that you and your hygienist can periodically compare the results of your home care and safeguard against future problems?