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# The “Pediatrician” of Dentistry

You'll Trust Us Because You Trust Your Pediatrician

**Jeff Kinner, DDS**  
Dentistry for Children Only

## Introduction

Like a pediatrician, Dr. Jeff Kinner only treats children from birth through adolescence. Dr. Kinner is a general dentist, practice limited to children. By being limited to pediatric patients, he is able to keep current on the latest diagnostic and treatment procedures for young people.

Dr. Jeff Kinner is experienced at communication, behavior modification and other techniques used to establish trust and to help your child accept dental treatment. Just as your pediatrician monitors development from infancy, Dr. Kinner evaluates your child's dental condition regularly to provide the highest level of prevention and treatment.

Our dental office is specially designed for treating children from infancy through adolescence, including those children who are handicapped or medically compromised. As your child grows, Dr. Kinner is able to recognize the need for early treatment of bite or tooth alignment problems that may arise. He is committed to providing the best possible dental care for your child in a friendly, caring and fun environment.

### The First Dental Visit by the First Birthday

The first dental visit is usually short and involves very little treatment. This visit gives your child an opportunity to meet Dr. Kinner in a non-threatening and friendly way. Sometimes he may ask you to sit opposite him, with your child in your lap and perform a "knee to knee" examination: this would be explained during the visit.

During the examination, Dr. Kinner will check all of your child's existing teeth for decay, examine your child's bite and look for any potential problems with the gums, jaw and oral tissues. Fluoride varnish may be applied at this visit. Fluoride varnish is very effective in fighting dental decay. Dr. Kinner will also provide you with educational materials, he has written, about oral health care basics for your child and discuss dental developmental issues and answer any questions.

Topics Dr. Kinner may give you information on include:

1. Good oral hygiene practices
  2. Fluoride needs
  3. Oral Habits
  4. Tooth Development
  5. Teething
  6. Proper nutrition
  7. Early decay, that has not penetrated the enamel, is often reversible with the application of medicaments.
- You will be asked to complete medical and health information forms concerning your child during the first visit. Come prepared with the needed information.

### Dental Decay is a Contagious Bacterial Infection

The National Institutes of Health Consensus Development Conference Statement of March 26-28, 2001 defined dental caries as "*an infectious, communicable disease resulting in destruction of tooth structure by acid-forming bacteria found in dental plaque, an intra-oral biofilm, in the presence of sugars.*"

The first part of the definition states that decay is "an infectious, communicable disease". This means decay is caused by bacteria that may be transmitted from person to person. The most common route of transmission is from primary caregiver (usually the mother) to the child. A child can "catch cavities" just as she can catch a cold.

The second part of the definition of dental decay describes this infection as "resulting in destruction of tooth structure by acid-forming bacteria." Strep mutans bacteria metabolize simple carbohydrates (sugars) to produce acids which begin to break down the enamel surfaces of the teeth. Penetration of the enamel into softer underlying dentin results in a cavity. Before enamel penetration, the process is reversible. This emphasizes the need for early detection and non-invasive treatments to reverse early breakdown of the enamel.

The third part of the definition of dental decay is that these bacteria are "found in dental plaque, an intra-oral biofilm, in the presence of sugars". Plaque is a sticky substance that adheres to the teeth and harbors cavity-causing bacteria. This is why avoiding sugars and disrupting the plaque, by brushing and flossing daily, is so important.



# **Dr. Jeff Kinner** **The Children's Dentist**

## **Call: (702) 838-9013**

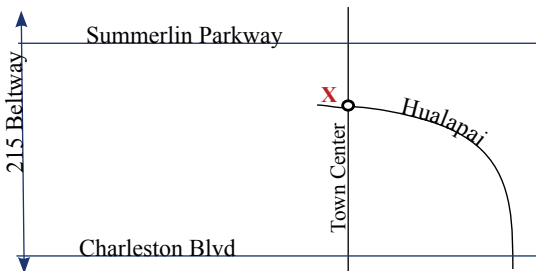
### **Hours:**

Monday.....	By Appointment
Tuesday.....	7:30am - 5:00pm
Wednesday.....	7:30am - 5:00pm
Thursday.....	7:30am - 5:00pm
Friday.....	8:00am - 12:00
Saturday and Sunday.....	Closed

## **Summerlin Medical Center**



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## **[www.DrKinner.com](http://www.DrKinner.com)**