PATIENT GUIDE

Not every cleaning is the same.

A general cleaning is for healthy gums. Periodontal care treats active gum disease, protects the bone that holds your teeth, and watches over dental implants. Use this page to see which kind of care fits you.

COMPARE THE TWO

General cleaning vs. specialized periodontal care.

	General cleaning	Periodontal care
Who it's for	Healthy gums — little or no bleeding, no deep pockets, no bone loss.	Gum disease, bleeding, recession, bone loss, or implants that need careful watching.
Who provides it	Your general dentist's team — overall dental care and restorative work.	Three full-time registered hygienists, with periodontists Dr. Choi and Dr. Zidile on the same team.
What's measured	A routine check of teeth and gums during a regular dental visit.	Every gum site at every visit — bleeding, pocket depth, and recession.
Where it focuses	Above the gumline — everyday plaque and tartar on tooth surfaces.	Below the gumline — inside the pockets where gum-disease bacteria live.
Technology	Varies by office.	Gentle air-and-water biofilm removal; microscopic plaque sampling when useful.
How often	Typically every 6 months.	About every 3–4 months, set by your gum measurements — not a fixed calendar.
The goal	Prevent problems and keep healthy gums that way.	Control an active, chronic infection and protect teeth and implants long-term.

SIGNS TO WATCH

You may need periodontal care if...

- ☐ Gums bleed when you brush or floss
- ☐ Gums look red, swollen, or pull away from teeth
- ☐ You were told you have deep pockets or bone loss
- ☐ Bad breath that doesn't go away with brushing
- ☐ Teeth feel loose, or spaces are opening
- ☐ You have implants and want specialist-level care
- ☐ A "deep cleaning" was recommended — and you want a specialist's look

WORKING TOGETHER

We partner with your dentist.

Many patients keep seeing their general dentist for fillings, crowns, and checkups, and come here for specialized gum and implant care. We coordinate so each visit has a clear role — and nothing falls through the cracks.

RESPECTFUL PARTNERSHIP

Your general dentist knows your whole mouth. We specialize in the gums, bone, and implants. Together, that gives you the right care at the right place.

Not sure which type of care you need? Call us — we'll measure your gums and explain what we find in plain language, with no pressure.

VISIT & CONTACT

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