



Palmetto Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

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When Conservative, Non-Surgical Therapy Fails To Help Patients

Palmetto Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery is committed to treating patients with evidence based medicine, as we seek the best new diagnostic and treatment modalities to offer your patients. We always exhaust non-surgical options before offering sound surgical alternatives. As well, this conservative approach will "optimize" patients prior to surgery, so they respond better to the procedure and recover most favorably. We spend much time preparing them for treatment and continuing to follow them until the best result is achieved.

TMJ Surgery

Arthrocentesis

The arthrocentesis that we perform is actually a non-arthroscopic lysis and lavage of the temporomandibular joint. The procedure is sometimes used for acute closed lock TMJ problems. We are limited by our lack of visualization of the joint. The procedure does allow us to inject medications that can be beneficial in helping a patient to recover more favorably.

Diagnostic Arthroscopy

This is the evolved procedure which allows us to perform a lysis and lavage of the TMJ, but also allows us to visualize the joint and its pathologies. The scope used for this procedure is less than 2 mm in diameter and therefore minimally invasive.

Surgical Arthroscopy

If we know that we will need to manipulate the joint or the disk to correct an identified disorder, then we can still do so in a minimally invasive manner. Because of this, the patients can recover rapidly and benefit from little or no scarring.

Open Arthroplasty

When a complicated TMJ pathology presents itself and can only be corrected with an open procedure, a small incision is hidden within the ear and an approach is made to the joint with minimal risks to adjacent structures, such as the Facial Nerve branches. Much can be accomplished through a very small incision.

Modified Condylotomy

The modified condylotomy is a procedure developed to alter the morphology of the temporomandibular joint by allowing more space between the glenoid fossa and the mandibular condyle. The procedure, while not minimally invasive, is considered a conservative therapy because we don't make an incision into the TMJ. The operation is similar to an orthognathic procedure, and takes only about 30 minutes. The results have been very promising with proper post-operative management.

Total Joint Replacement

Palmetto Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery is the only center in South Carolina that can place a W. Lorenz stock TMJ total joint, the cutting edge in replacement technology. The procedure is limited to patients with significant pathology. For example, those with a neoplasm or a patient who was improperly operated upon multiple times by another surgeon. Fortunately, this rarely is necessary.

Optimization

In most non-emergent cases, the patient is optimized for surgery with physical therapy, diet/behavior modification, occlusal splint therapy, and has failed non-surgical therapies.

All patients that undergo procedures of the TMJ must be able to tolerate a limited no-chew diet.



TMJ Arthroscope

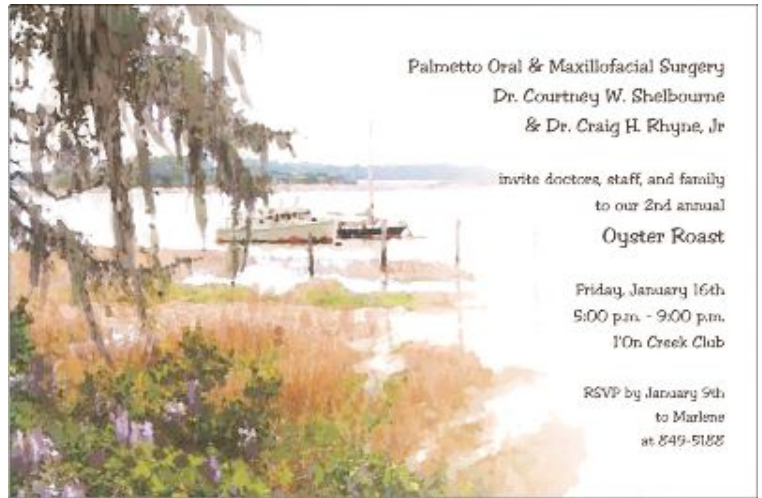
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will be filled with our continuing education lunch & learn seminars and also continuing education dinners. We hope that you will take advantage of our educational lectures. We would also like you to let us know what topics would best serve you in treating your patients and developing your businesses. This will help us provide programs which you will all attend and enjoy.

One other way in which we will be active outside of the practice is to lecture for and write articles for the publications of Charleston area hospitals Roper and East Cooper Regional Medical Center.

In addition to all of the lectures that we enjoy giving, look for us also to enjoy interacting with you and your staff. We look forward to continuing to build strong relationships with you, so that you will feel comfortable sending your oral and maxillofacial surgery patients to Palmetto Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery.

Thank you,
Craig Rhyne



We look forward to seeing all of you at our 2nd Annual Oyster Roast, please look for your invitations in the mail.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year from all of us at Palmetto Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery!

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