A New Era of Preserving Tooth Structure Has Arrived in Dentistry

e have all heard the changes in medicine to less invasive procedures.
Years ago, gall bladder required a big incision and a full week stay in the hospital.
Now, laparoscopic surgery requires minimal access and quick recovery, patients are done and go home in one day.

In dentistry, it has been tradition to sand good tooth away to repair decayed areas. The sanding extra tooth structure away era started many years ago with metal type repairs. Gold crowns or porcelain and metal crowns all need more tooth taken away to make proper repairs. Even today crowns are made of tooth-colored materials and yet the teeth are often sanded down to pegs.

The new era of tooth repairs doesn't require all this tooth removal just to fix the decay. All that is needed is to remove the damage and bond new composite resin or porcelain to restore the weak structure. The extra parts of your tooth are saved and don't need to be ground away.

There are several advantages to minimal sanding for front or back teeth:

- Less sanding so it preserves your good tooth.
- Bonded and sealed edges resist decay for many years.
- No dark metal seams show, so cosmetically they look like the real tooth.

Studies show bonded minimal sanding repairs can return 70 percent to 80 percent of the strength lost from the decay damage. With greater strength and excellent underneath seal, these work well for both front and back teeth. The popularity with dentists in recommending these has been slow for a couple reasons. First, sanding all the good tooth away has been around for years, and new techniques require special training and have a learning curve for each dentist to be suc-

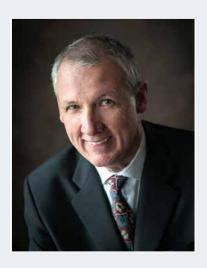
cessful. Also, there has been a concern with dentists that these materials, composite and porcelain, may not hold up as well as the other systems. But that could not be further from the truth. With proper techniques and bite pressure management these less grinding methods are as strong and stable as the other systems have been.

Our practice has been treating adults and teens for more than 35 years. We were interested in the less grinding methods when they came out in the mid 1990s. Yes, 20 years ago we stopped making crowns that grind away the tooth. Whether restoring front teeth or back teeth, we have found the methods to be reliable and strong. The first veneers done in our practice were in 1989. We have been doing smile make-overs with veneers and not grinding the tooth away for over 25 years. Thus far, we have never had to start over and replace anyone's veneers.

The less grinding method on back teeth has been a big concern with dentists. The thinking is that the porcelain will not be strong enough for the bite and therefore break. We have not found this to be true. Care must be taken for proper bite design and bonding techniques. These systems are no longer new, and we can attest to their stability and strength.

Minimally invasive procedures have overtaken medicine and they are here to stay in dentistry, as well. We have successfully restored thousands of teeth with these methods over the last 25 years. Our well-educated staff can tell you all about it, and why they too have restored their teeth this way. Our goal is for you to keep your teeth a lifetime, and our team can show you the latest in how to accomplish your goal. Look into minimal sanding and see why it's right for you and your family.

STEVAN ORSER, D.D.S. ARLINGTON ADULT DENTISTRY



I was raised in the Northwest Suburbs of Chicago, and have lived here my entire life. After graduating Notre Dame High School College, I attended Loyola University on a NCAA full scholarship. Upon completing the bachelor degree in Psychology, I studied at Loyola School of Dentistry in Maywood, III., where I received my Doctorate. My education was completed after a residency at Rush Medical Center in Chicago. My dental practice focuses on back teeth restoration and front teeth cosmetics exclusively for adults and teens. I have achieved the honor of accreditation by the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry. My wife. Lisa, and I have three children and live in Lake Zurich, III. We enjoy family time and travel

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Dr. Stevan Orser 1845 E. Rand Rd., Ste. 200 Arlington Heights, IL 60004 Phone: 847-870-8820 stevanorserdds.com