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Editorial

Is there any Need to Visit a Dentist Every Six Months?

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The answer is always yes.

Here's why

You brush your teeth daily (I hope) but even after brushing a layer of deposits known as plaque continues to form on the surface of your tooth. These layers of plaque hardens to form calculus and if calculus stays for longer period of time they tend to cause gum bleeding and gum infection.

Conclusion: Cleaning is advisable every 6 months to maximum 1 year so that you can be free from gum infection, bad breath and bleeding gums.

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Figure 2: Stages of gum infection.

Figure 1: Before and after cleaning.

Whenever you notice any black dot on the surface of your tooth that is a cavity. The cavity that is just started and until you don't get that cavity cleaned and filled it is increasing in downward direction. **Conclusion:** If the dentist catch the cavity in early stages it can easily be cleaned and filled without causing any pain (It even saves your money of having root canal treatment).

Figure 4: Caries reaching nerves.

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Conclusion: If you delay the visits to your dentist the chances of saving the tooth decreases and then in severe infection the dentist has to remove the tooth and go for replacement which is again a costlier and longer procedure.

In the case of children as well regular visits to the dentist can save all later complications.

Figure 3: Stages of tooth decay.

Whenever there is pain in your tooth or any sensation to hot or cold that means your cavity is now touching your nerve but in this case if you make an early visit to your dentist, the tooth can still be saved.

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Prevalence of Dental Caries and Gingivitis among 6 - 12 Year Old Children in Thiruvananthapuram District, Kerala, India - A Cross-Sectional Study



In conclusion it is a big yes that we need to visit the dentist every six months so that we can be aware of oral hygiene and keep it maintained.

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