

# For Your Health

Serving The Woodlands and South Montgomery County

## Comprehensive Dental Care

# Dr. Larry Burgess Treats Cause, Not Just Symptoms

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Contributing Writer

In a day of long waits followed by “in and out” dental services, the lost art of “getting to know the patient” BEFORE treatment rather than “as you go” is still the benchmark for patient services by Dr. Larry Burgess.

Dr. Burgess has both the desire and the ability to look beyond the symptoms to the causes of patients’ dental problems. For instance, treatment for periodontal disease—or tooth decay—is a common practice, but it is not common to deal with occlusal problems.

The occlusion is the bite or the way teeth come together. A poor bite causes stress that can result in worn down and cracked teeth, jaw muscle or joint pain, headaches and a host of other things. One of Dr. Burgess’s priorities is to provide the patient with a stable, well-functioning bite that ensures dental restorations like crowns, fillings, dental implants, etc., will last years longer than they would otherwise. This is just one example of the “comprehensive dentistry” that is at the center of Dr. Burgess’s dental practice.

Dr. Burgess was a mechanical engineer prior to becoming a dentist and this experience impacted his philosophy toward dentistry and his desire “to provide our patients with a high quality dental experience and exceed their expectations of service. Our goal is to educate and offer comprehensive, ideal dental care.”

“You can’t treat someone until you know the ‘whole’ person,” said Dr. Burgess.

His focus on excellence in “comprehensive dentistry” stems from a desire to take sufficient time and care to thoroughly discuss the patient’s concerns by examining the full condition of the patient’s oral health and then exploring options for addressing the problems. The first visit at Smiles by Dr. Burgess is a face-to-face meeting “out of the chair” when Dr. Burgess gets acquainted with the patient and searches out the “problem” areas they need to address. This is the basis for the individualized comprehensive care he seeks to provide.

“We want to look beyond the symptoms to the causes of the problems so that we can rid the patient of any pain and disease as quickly as possible,” said Dr. Burgess. “Then we establish a sound plan of treatment to eliminate the root causes of the problems.”

Dr. Burgess recognizes that many people don’t look forward to a trip to the dentist, and he has made it a priority to make his patient’s visit a positive experience.

“We are committed to doing whatever it takes to keep our patient comfortable as we do the work that they need,” Dr. Burgess stated. “We will find the right combination of treatment options to ensure that the patient has the highest level of comfort possible.”

Dr. Burgess specializes in many cosmetic dentistry procedures and cautions, “Carefully phased treatment may result in better, longer-lasting dentistry. In our practice we don’t do cosmetic makeovers that compromise your long-term best welfare. Predictable, long-lasting results are our goal.”

This caring, comprehensive approach to ensure the patient’s comfort also extends to referrals by Dr. Burgess who has sought out expert specialists who care deeply about taking the time to communicate thoroughly with patients.

Dr. Burgess’ office staff has been “handpicked to provide the best possible care of patients” and are committed as a team to provide patients with exceptional dental care and service.

“Quality is never an accident; it is always the result of high intention, sincere effort and skillful execution; it represents the wise choice of many alternatives,” Dr. Burgess explained.

Having been a resident of The Woodlands since the early ‘90’s, Dr. Burgess is committed to taking good care of his friends and neighbors. A devoted husband and father of two young daughters, he is also a pilot and certified scuba diver who plays classical guitar. A special passion is dental mission work in Belize that is part of a Central America Mission Project.

Dr. Burgess is located at 10655 Six Pines Drive, Suite 140. For more information about Dr. Burgess or to make an appointment, call (281) 367-5900 or log on to [www.smilesbyburgess.com](http://www.smilesbyburgess.com).

“Quality is never an accident . . .”  
Dr. Larry Burgess, DDS, FAGD



(Top Row L-R) Kevin Harberson, Dr. Larry Burgess, Stacy Burgess; (Front Row L-R) Jessica Newman, Celeste Wyatt, Mary Beth Bosworth, Cindy Garcia, (not pictured) Barbara Gibson.