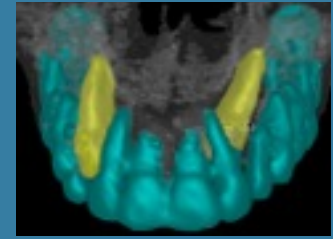


# Canine Exposure

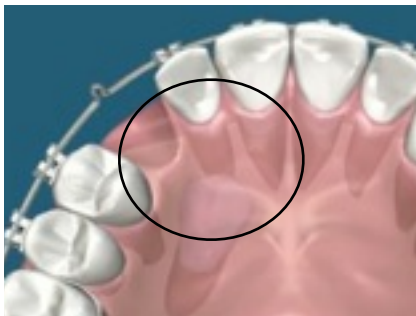


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The adult canines are the ‘corner stone’ of your teeth and are extremely important in both function, bite balance, and aesthetics. Perhaps during your last orthodontic appointment, it was noted that one or more of the canines were not erupting into the mouth correctly because of crowding or inadequate space. While your orthodontist uses the braces to align your child’s teeth and create adequate space, he or she may request a canine exposure which will make it possible to guide and bring the canines in their proper position.



## About impacted canines

The adult canine teeth erupt between the ages of 12 to 14. However, they may become impacted, stuck or misaligned during the development phase. The orthodontist will often request what is called a “canine exposure” to be done by the oral surgeon to aid them in realigning the canine tooth.

## What are the treatment stages?

1. Your orthodontist has already placed the braces to align your teeth. During this process, adequate space is created to accommodate eventual eruption of the canines into their proper position.

2. Dr. Kazemi will expose the impacted canine and place a bracket which has a short chain attached to it. This small chain (gold in color) is ligated to the braces to allow easy access for the orthodontist. If the primary (baby) canine is present, it is extracted at the same time.
3. The orthodontist can begin the canine eruption in 7-10 days. Elastic bands are placed on the chain that activates the eruption process. A new elastic band is placed once a month until the canine has emerged through the gum tissue. It is then aligned with the rest of the teeth.

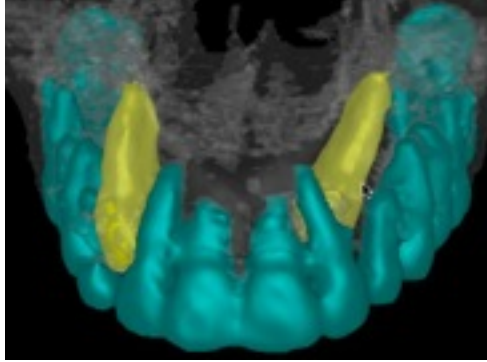
## Best treatment approach

A consultation is often recommended to discuss the treatment plan. Canine exposure is a 30-45 minute procedure, often performed under IV sedation or nitrous oxide, and usually heals in five to seven days.



## Necessary X-rays

A panoramic x-ray is the minimum X-ray necessary for canine exposure. This may be complemented with small dental X-rays as needed. Also, on some occasions, a CT scan may be helpful to provide a 3-dimensional image of the impacted canine.



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## Are these procedures safe?

The canine exposure procedure is safe and predictable when performed by a trained, skillful, and experienced oral surgeon using specialized instruments and techniques. Dr. Kazemi specializes in pediatric related procedures and has performed it successfully on thousands of children and teens.

The office is designed and equipped for surgical procedures for children, and the team assisting Dr. Kazemi is trained specifically for such procedures. Methodical, exacting, and detailed protocols are followed strictly to make sure every child is safe, comfortable, and a remarkable experience.

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## Children on medications for ADHD?

Many children are on medications for ADHD (such as Ritalin). These medications do not impose any problems with respect to the surgery, anesthesia, or post-operative medications, and they may be continued as prescribed.

## Managing anxiety about procedure:

Anxiety is not uncommon in children, especially if they have had bad experiences previously. We resolve this in several ways. First, the use of child-specific IV sedation allows them to take a nap during the procedure. This helps to make them comfortable and reduce anxiety. Second, they will be cared by a group of affable staff members who take the time to personally connect with each child and allay their fears and concerns. Your child is given full “perceived” control of the events that take place and they approve each step along the way. At no time is a child ever held down, talked to loudly, or strapped. These methods are outdated and ineffective. Finally, the procedure is done in a conservative fashion to help minimize or avoid swelling, pain, and complications that others report as bad experiences.

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## What is the best anesthesia option for children? Are they safe?

A person's dental experience as a child greatly affects their outlook and confidence in dentistry as adults. The best way to manage your child's anxiety and assure a non-traumatic experience is to have a child-specific IV sedation form of anesthesia. It is the most recommended option and chosen by many parents. However, for minor procedures in older and more cooperative children, nitrous oxide (laughing gas) and local anesthesia may be adequate. In the very young age group (age 3 to 5) an intramuscular dose of certain medications can also be sufficient. Dr. Kazemi is trained and licensed in administering of office anesthesia. It is very safe and effective. You can rest assured that Dr. Kazemi and his well-trained staff monitor children continually and make sure that only enough anesthesia is given for the duration of the procedure.

IV sedation is a very safe and predictable in healthy patients when administered by an experienced clinician with proper training and accepted protocol. The patient is continually monitored during anesthesia and emergency equipment is on hand if necessary. The medications used have a long history of safety and are short-acting. Anesthesia is also safe in patients with respiratory problems or cardiovascular disease, providing that precautions are taken. To avoid possible airway compromise, patients with severe upper respiratory compromise, such as severe cold with stuffy nose and productive cough are asked to postpone the surgery until they feel better.

The facility is equipped with emergency equipment, and medications and the entire team is trained to manage any possible complications quickly and properly. The surgeon is CPR and ACLS certified and can manage any complications that arise effectively and quickly. The Suburban hospital is in proximity in the event additional assistance is required.

## What is the expected recovery?

- **Pain:** The level and duration of pain depends on the complexity of the surgery, technique, and child's tolerance. Most children complain very little of pain after extractions and other minor oral surgery procedure and do not require any pain medications. Ibuprofen (Advil) or Acetaminophen (Tylenol) is certainly adequate for relief of most types of discomfort in children, and may be necessary for one to two days. Very rarely do they need a stronger medication such as Tylenol with Codeine.
- **Swelling:** No swelling is expected with extractions in children unless the tooth is unusually impacted or malpositioned. But there can be some swelling in the event of injuries, which resolves in seven to 10 days.
- **Diet:** Upon arrival home, children may have some water, juices, soups, puree, shakes, puree, and very soft food. A soft diet is recommended up to three to five days. No hard, crispy, or very spicy foods should be eaten during this period. The general rule is: if they have to chew it, it's probably too hard. After five to seven days, patients may gradually return to normal foods.
- **Activity:** Parents should make sure that their child gets plenty of rest on the day of the procedure. Some children feel quite well even on the day of the extraction and can resume gentle activities. If IV sedation was given, it's best to rest on the day of surgery and resume some activities on the following day. No sports for two to three days.

# Planning Your Visit



## Planning the procedure around your schedule:

We understand that taking time off work for your child's surgery may be challenging for parents. Therefore, we have designed the **All-In-One Visit** program that provides both consultation and surgery on the same day. The post-operative follow-up, although always recommended, can be done via telephone or e-mail if the sutures are dissolvable. Not only does this save time, it's also a great arrangement for your family. Forms are completed prior to your visit on our website or by fax. These prearrangements make it easy to have diagnostic X-rays, consultation and surgery completed as planned **all on the same day**. Finally, in five to seven days, Dr. Kazemi will check up on your child's progress via phone or e-mail. As a convenience, prescriptions are available right in our office. We offer a flexible appointment schedule, Monday through Friday between the hours of eight and five, and early morning or late-day appointments per special arrangements. Weekend appointments are available for our VIP and Presidential service packages and can be reserved per special arrangements.



## What parents can do during your child's procedure?

Parents can relax in our lounge and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and read a wide selection of magazines. Or take advantage of our free Wi-Fi computer lounge to check e-mails and browse the internet on either your computer or ours. If you feel comfortable leaving, you can also take a stroll on convenient Bethesda Avenue and visit the many stores, coffee shops, and restaurants. We'll give you a call when surgery is complete so you can return to the office and join your child in the recovery room.

## Necessary information prior to the procedure:



- Patient registration form, medical history, signed HIPAA forms. All forms may be completed online or sent by fax prior to your visit.
- A referral form from your dentist is indicating the recommended wisdom teeth for extraction and other treatments.
- Panoramic X-ray done within the past six months. Your dentist may send it to us electronically or give you the film to bring. If you don't have a panoramic X-ray, you can obtain one in our office.

## What are the cost, payment options, and insurance protocol?



The cost depends on the type of procedure, the number of teeth being exposed, the degree of difficulty, and type of anesthesia. Once an X-ray has been reviewed, and treatment plan completed, the exact cost will be discussed. Canine exposure and anesthesia are often considered under dental insurances.

We have several payment options including short- and long-term plans. Those with insurance may choose to pay the surgical fees and receive reimbursement directly from their insurance company, or pay an approximate co-pay and we will submit the necessary claims. If you need special financial assistance to prepare for your desired procedures, a separate consultation appointment is recommended.

## About Dr. H. Ryan Kazemi



**Dr. H. Ryan Kazemi** is an oral and maxillofacial surgeon certified by the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. He received his dental degree from the University of Pennsylvania, School of Dental Medicine in 1990. Following a one-year internship at the Albert Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia, he pursued surgical training at The Washington Hospital Center in Washington, DC, where he received his certificate in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. Dr. Kazemi has practiced in Bethesda, Maryland, since 1997, providing a full spectrum of oral and maxillofacial surgery procedures with emphasis on extractions, dental implants, bone grafting, and corrective jaw surgery.

Dr. Kazemi is a diplomat of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, and an active member of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, American College of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Academy of Osseointegration, American Dental Association and Entrepreneur Organization.

He has served as the founder and president of several dental and implant study clubs in the Washington DC area. Dr. Kazemi has published and lectured extensively on dental implants, bone grafting, and practice management. His newsletter, *To-The-Point*, is read by more than 2000 dentists every month. He is also the founder of DDSForums.com, a professional networking site for dentists.

Dr. Kazemi serves on the medical staff for D.C. United, the major league soccer team in Washington, D.C. and the US national soccer team for the care of their athletes.

### What sets us apart:

- Treatment by board-certified oral surgeon
- Predictable results
- Speedy recovery
- Flexible scheduling
- On-time appointments
- Safe and comfortable atmosphere
- Warm and personable service
- Quick access and response when you need us



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