



Cummins Dental Group Provides Dental Cleanings and Oral Examinations in Springfield, IL

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Springfield native Dr. Shannon Cummins, D.M.D. has spent more than 30 years providing comprehensive dental care to families throughout the area. Through Cummins Dental Group, he continues his long-standing commitment to helping patients achieve healthy, confident smiles. As a practice offering dental cleanings and oral examinations in Springfield, the group focuses on preventive care that supports long-term oral health through thorough evaluation and professional cleaning for patients of all ages.

Routine dental cleanings and oral examinations form a core part of the practice's approach to maintaining oral stability. A comprehensive oral examination evaluates the teeth, gums, bite alignment, and overall oral health to identify concerns early and assess both current conditions and longer-term stability. Professional dental cleaning removes plaque and buildup, restoring a clean foundation that supports ongoing health. When clinically appropriate, digital X-rays provide detailed views of areas not visible during a visual exam, helping detect early signs of decay, infection, or bone changes with greater precision.

These visits typically last approximately 60 minutes, allowing sufficient time for thorough assessment, clear explanations of findings, and answers to patient questions. The practice does not rush appointments, emphasizing collaboration so that patients receive tailored recommendations based on individual needs and priorities. Most patients benefit from visits every six months, though frequency is adjusted according to specific circumstances such as gum disease, existing restorations, or other ongoing concerns.

Dr. Shannon R. Cummins, D.M.D., leads the practice with more than three decades of experience serving the local community. A Springfield native, Dr. Cummins graduated from Griffin High School in 1979, earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Benedictine College in 1983, and received his Doctor of Dental Medicine degree from the Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine in 1987. He has treated thousands of patients, including multiple generations of families, and prioritizes knowing patients as individuals to deliver more personalized care.

“A comprehensive oral examination allows us to evaluate the full picture of a patient’s oral health, including teeth, gums, and bite alignment, so that concerns can be identified early and addressed conservatively,” said Dr. Shannon R. Cummins, D.M.D., lead dentist at Cummins Dental Group. “This structured evaluation supports informed decisions and helps preserve natural teeth over time.”

The dental team also includes Dr. Ethan M. Duewer, D.M.D., who grew up in Edwardsville, Illinois. Dr. Duewer completed his Bachelor of Science degree at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and earned his Doctor of Dental Medicine degree from the Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine in 2017. He maintains a strong interest in community service and mission work.

Dr. Ethan M. Duewer, D.M.D., addressed the role of professional cleaning. “Professional dental cleaning removes plaque and buildup that daily home care cannot fully address, creating a healthier foundation and supporting the long-term stability of the teeth and gums,” said Dr. Ethan M. Duewer, D.M.D. “Regular cleanings form an essential part of preventive care that reduces the likelihood of more complex issues later.”

Cummins Dental Group currently serves between 2,500 and 3,000 active patients who come from Springfield and areas as far as St. Louis, Missouri. The practice provides both general and cosmetic dentistry for patients and family members of all ages. Preventive services such as cleanings and examinations are integrated into a broader continuum of care that includes restorative and other treatments when needed.

Many dental issues develop without early symptoms. Routine visits enable monitoring before problems become more advanced, allowing for conservative intervention when small cavities, early gum inflammation, or minor structural changes are detected. Delaying care can allow minor concerns to progress, often increasing the scope of necessary treatment. For patients with existing restorations, regular examinations and cleanings also help monitor margins, bite alignment, and gum health around those restorations.

The practice welcomes both new and returning patients. Those who have been away from regular care are supported with a calm, structured approach that includes clear next steps and no judgment. Appointments are designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of oral health while ensuring comfort and clear communication throughout the visit.

Digital imaging is used only when clinically indicated. This selective approach balances the value of detailed diagnostic information with careful clinical judgment. Findings from examinations and imaging are explained in straightforward terms so that patients can understand their options and timelines for any recommended care.

Cummins Dental Group operates as a locally owned practice that prioritizes continuity and relationship-driven care. The team's shared educational background from the Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine contributes to consistent clinical standards. Dr. Cummins's extensive experience is complemented by the perspectives of associate dentists, creating a collaborative environment for preventive and restorative services alike.

Preventive care remains the most predictable way to support long-term dental health, reduce unexpected issues, and help preserve natural teeth. By combining thorough oral examinations with professional cleanings, the practice aims to guide patients toward informed decisions that protect oral health over time. The emphasis on individualized attention and unhurried appointments reflects the group's commitment to serving families and individuals in the Springfield region.

Cummins Dental Group is a dental practice that provides general and cosmetic dentistry services for patients of all ages. The group serves families in Springfield, Illinois, and surrounding communities with an emphasis on individualized care and clinical expertise.

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Cummins Dental Group

Cummins Dental Group provides comprehensive dental care in a stress-free environment. We believe everyone deserves to have a beautiful, pain-free smile. W

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