

Pediatric Dental Practice Integrates Specialized Maintenance Services

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Little Cloud Pediatric Dentistry announced the formal integration of specialized early space maintenance protocols into its preventive pediatric care services, effective September 2026. Under this clinical initiative, the practice evaluates developing arches to determine the necessity of space maintainers in Lafayette, CA for young patients who experience premature primary tooth loss.

When primary teeth are lost early due to dental caries, trauma, or developmental conditions, neighboring teeth can shift into the empty space. Incorporating space maintainers holds these gaps open, allowing permanent teeth adequate room to erupt into their natural positions. According to clinical guidelines from the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, preserving space following early primary tooth loss helps maintain arch length, manages alignment, and can lower the likelihood of severe tooth impaction or complex crowding issue

Led by Dr. Rachel Forer, a Board-Certified Pediatric Dentist certified through the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry, the practice provides specialized care tailored to children, adolescents, and patients with special needs. Dr. Forer completed her Doctor of Dental Surgery degree at the University of California, San Francisco, followed by a General Practice Residency at the VA Portland Healthcare System and a two-year Pediatric Dentistry Residency through UCSF at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland. Upon completion of her residency, she received the Ray Braham Award for clinical skill and dedication to treating patients with special needs. Dr. Forer maintains active credentials at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland and holds privileges at the Walnut Creek Outpatient Surgery Center.

The clinical team also includes associate pediatric dentist Dr. Sara Simanian, a fellow UCSF-trained practitioner and Ray Braham Award recipient. Dr. Simanian joined the practice after collaborating with Dr. Forer during their pediatric dentistry residency program. Together, the practitioners focus on preventive care protocols designed to guide jaw development, monitor growth patterns, and educate families on long-term oral hygiene habits.

A notable feature of the practice's operational environment is the incorporation of certified therapy animals within the clinical setting. The office utilizes registered therapy dogs, including Pearl, a licensed therapy dog through 4Paws Inc., to assist in minimizing stress and environmental anxiety for young patients during examinations and procedures. The presence of trained animals serves as a non-pharmacological comfort tool during routine and specialized visits.

The practice provides a full spectrum of pediatric dental care, including routine cleanings, preventive sealants, space maintenance, emergency dental evaluations, and various sedation options ranging from nitrous oxide to general anesthesia for complex medical or dental cases.

The application of space maintainers involves a multi-step clinical process. During an initial evaluation, diagnostic imaging and X-rays are utilized to evaluate the precise position of underlying permanent teeth. If an appliance is required, impressions are taken to fabricate a custom device designed for the patient's specific oral anatomy. These appliances are crafted as either fixed or removable units depending on individual developmental requirements. Once fabricated, the device is fitted, adjusted, and monitored through regular follow-up examinations until the permanent tooth begins its natural eruption process.

By implementing structured early interventions, the practice aims to assist local families in managing childhood dental development while supporting healthy overall growth.

Little Cloud Pediatric Dentistry is a pediatric dental facility located in Lafayette, California. The practice offers comprehensive oral health care for infants, children, teens, and individuals with special healthcare needs. Additional information regarding services, clinical procedures, and patient care options can be accessed directly through the practice's official channels.

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