

High-tech dental care

B9 Dental Centre invests in the latest technology to deliver precision treatment to patients

Lai Yi Ming

INVESTING in high-quality dental equipment by utilising the latest technology puts B9 Dental Centre ahead.

Dr Raymond Lim (right), director and dental surgeon at B9 Dental Centre, says: "We always invest in the latest technology, which goes hand in hand with quality technical skills and services."

Opened in 2013, B9 Dental Centre has close to 8,000 patients and Dr Lim estimates that roughly 80 per cent of them are introduced to the clinic by word of mouth.

There are three clinics located in Buona Vista, Clementi and Toa Payoh.

Its services include major dental treatments (root canals, crowns and bridges), aesthetic dentistry (dental implants, braces), oral surgery (bone grafting) and children's dentistry.

He says: "We have a range of equipment to help our dentists accomplish high-quality diagnosis for better decision-making processes, such as the intraoral camera — which takes extremely detailed images of the mouth, teeth and gums; and the KaVo i-CAT tomography 3D e-Xam — which is one of the latest equipment that gives high-definition 3D X-ray images."

i-CAT is the world's leading brand from Germany and only a handful of these are used in Singapore, he adds.

Worthwhile investments

"The reason why we are willing to invest in this i-CAT machine is because of its high definition and high resolution, which provide complete three-dimensional views or critical anatomy for the most thorough analysis of bone structure," explains Dr Lim.

He adds that it provides accurate three-dimensional views of impacted molars, with clear views of the nerve



PHOTO: CHONG JUN LIANG

canal, sinus walls and cortical borders. This means doctors can have peace of mind and confidence that a surgery will have minimal risk.

The clinics also use Sensor Digital PA (periapical) X-ray, which utilises the latest sensor technology that delivers real-time images.

Digital X-ray technology uses a small electronic sensor placed in the mouth to capture an image, which can be called up instantly on a computer screen to support diagnosis and treatment.

Lighting is also important. Dr Lim uses operating light KaVoLUX 540 LED, which provides natural white light of the highest quality up to 40,000 lux from its unique visual system and four different coloured LEDs.

The perfect colour mixture guaran-

tees white light, within the illumination field. The excellent Colour Rendering Index allows dentists to make an exact comparison between tooth and composite colour.

The centre has won many awards from the Small Medium Business Association. Accolades include the Promising SME 500 this year and last year, as well as Industry Star 2015.

Aside from using state-of-the-art machinery, Dr Lim also believes in putting patients' well-being first.

"We want to increase the quality across the board and we hope to set an example for other clinics.

"The goal is to improve not just ourselves but also the industry, so that patients can receive even better care in the future," he says.

Another way to see clearly

THOSE who wish to wake up to perfect vision but have reservations about laser eye surgery, or Lasik, may now have an alternative.

Increasingly popular, the implantable contact lens (ICL) is a specially customised lens that can be inserted behind the iris by folding and implanting it through a small 2mm opening.

ICL is made of a soft foldable material called collamer, similar to collagen, making it biocompatible with the eyes.

Dr Cheryl Lee, cataract, retinal and implantable contact lens specialist at Pacific Eye Centre, says: "Patients coming to my clinic choose ICL because it has many clear advantages over glasses, contact lenses, Lasik and EpiLasik."

With ICL, no changes are made to the cornea in any way, which eliminates any permanent damage or side effects such as halos, glare and corneal flap complications.

She says: "Laser corneal surgery works by thinning the cornea, and in the process, nerves that stimulate tear production are destroyed, which explains why

patients suffer from dry eyes after the procedure. This does not happen with ICL. Hence, patients with dry eyes can still have ICL and their condition will not worsen after surgery."

Dr Lee adds: "For many, it is not just a cosmetic procedure. Vision is better if the correction is closer to the eye. This explains why glasses give poorer vision than contact lenses."

"But with contact lenses, dry eyes and irritation, especially with prolonged wear, cause your eyes to look tired and red. Long-term wear of contact lens is also not healthy for the cornea because of lack of oxygen."

Most importantly, the ICL procedure is reversible. If vision problems should occur due to ageing, lenses can be removed or replaced later in life where necessary.

"When we grow older, we may start to have reading vision problems among other issues.

"But because ICL is reversible, it can be replaced with a multi-focal lens, for instance, to accommodate your new pre-

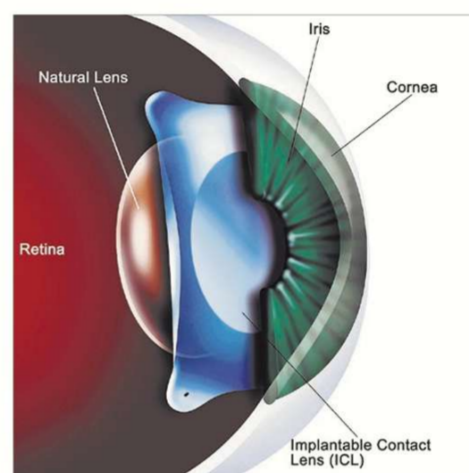


PHOTO: PACIFIC EYE CENTRE

minutes, an ICL is implanted in the world. Patients who have dry eyes, severe myopia, thin cornea or have had Lasik and noticed a deterioration of vision can opt for ICL.

Dr Lee says the basic criterion is that there should be enough space for the lens to be placed. This is easily determined by a quick, non-contact scan with immediately results.

Also, you should not have any changes to your glasses prescription of more than 50 degrees in a year.

The ICL procedure takes about 20 minutes and is performed as a day surgery — patients can move around and go home hours after the lens has been implanted.

Following surgery, patients will be required to use antibiotic drops for two weeks. No stitching will be required as the small 2mm incision acts as a self-sealing valve in the eye.

Dr Lee adds: "There is no need to stay in the hospital. Many people are anxious and so it can be performed under general anaesthesia." — **Lai Yi Ming**

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Email your answer with the subject title "The Sunday Times Celebrates SG50 Contest" and your particulars (Name, NRIC, Age, Occupation, Gender, Contact & Email) to: mkgstutpromo@sph.com.sg

Closing date: 12 April, midnight

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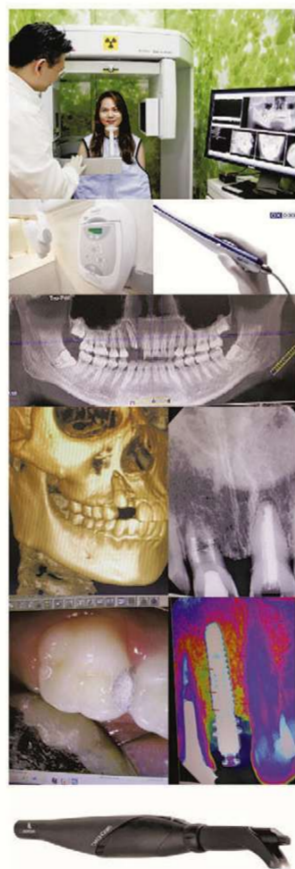
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We provide professional treatments with skill, precision and absolute dedication – based on fair, reasonable and transparent pricing. At all times, we ensure a caring and compassionate environment that promotes comfort and peace of mind.

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