

Ask Your Dentist

Aligning The Jaw Can Take A Bite Out Of Pain

(NAPSA)—If you experience persistent neck and shoulder pain, the results of a new survey may give you reason to smile—and offer some hope for relief.

A new national survey revealed that headaches are the No. 1 symptom reported by patients who visit neuromuscular dentists. That's followed by jaw joint pain, neck and shoulder pain and ringing in the ears.

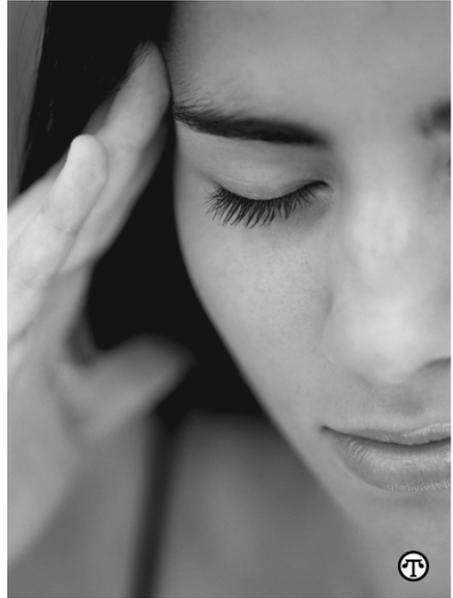
Experts say neuromuscular dentistry can alleviate pain in the head, neck and jaw and improve the patient's smile.

Specially trained neuromuscular dentists use a variety of techniques to relax the jaw and find its optimal position. From there, a jaw-repositioning appliance (an orthotic, much like a mouth guard used by athletes) is used to temporarily maintain the optimal position until patients can be fitted with permanent crowns and veneers.

After a thorough examination, including analysis of the muscles in the jaw, a specially trained neuromuscular dentist can show you how treatment will change your bite and alleviate pain.

The survey also revealed that patients often live with these painful symptoms for several years without relief despite seeking medical attention from physicians, neurologists and chiropractors.

For example, one patient reported living with migraine headaches and pain in her jaw for 36 years before finding relief through treatments from a neuromuscular dentist. It turns out that



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the pain was caused by a bad bite and clenching her jaw. "I didn't know there was a fix," she said. "I immediately felt better, it was weird, and now I have pretty teeth and I'm showing them off."

"Less than 1 percent of the dentists in the world are trained in neuromuscular dentistry," said Dr. Bill Dickerson, president of LVI Global, a leading postgraduate dental training center. Dentists from all over the world attend LVI to learn how neuromuscular dentistry can alleviate patient pain.

For more information or to locate a specially trained neuromuscular dentist near you, visit www.leadingdentists.com.