

# MEET THE DOCTORS



Paul Pamula, DDS, MD was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. He attended the University of Wisconsin – Madison where he obtained his Bachelor of Science in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. He returned to Chicago to complete his dental education at the University of Illinois at Chicago. His residency continued at the University of Illinois at Chicago with completion of formal medical training and specialty certification in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

Dr. Richard Wagner has been serving the community of Southeast Wisconsin for over 30 years. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin – Parkside with a Bachelor of Science and the Marquette University School of Dentistry where he received his doctorate. He completed his Internship at Brown V.A. Medical Center in Dayton, Ohio. After that he went through his Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Anesthesia residencies at the Cleveland Metro Health Center in Cleveland, Ohio, associated with Case Western Reserve University.

Both doctors are diplomates of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and are presently seeing patients in both the Racine and the Kenosha offices.



*We care ...*

*We are happy that you have chosen us for your Oral and Maxillofacial care.*

*Please feel free to call or email with any questions you may have.*

*We look forward to meeting you.*

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**SHOULD I GET MY WISDOM TEETH OUT?**



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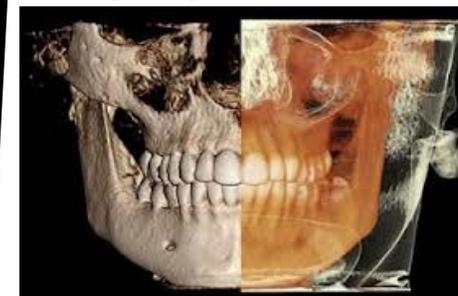
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## WISDOM TEETH

By your late teens, your **jawbone** has nearly reached its adult size. But sometimes there isn't enough space for your wisdom teeth. When this happens, your teeth become trapped in the bone and grow in the wrong direction. The **crown** (chewing surface of the tooth) may only partially break through the **gum**. In other cases, it may remain completely in the bone. The roots, which hold the tooth in place, may become misshapen or grow dangerously close to a **sinus cavity** or to the **nerve** located in your lower jaw.



At about age nine, the crown of your tooth begins to form in a small sac inside your jawbone. The roots begin to grow into the soft, developing bone. By your late teens, the crown often begins to erupt, if there is room. Roots continue to lengthen in the jawbone, which is almost in its adult size and density. By your early twenties, the crown has emerged or becomes impacted, roots are usually completely formed, and the jawbone has completed growth. By your forties, the roots of your wisdom teeth are solidly anchored to the dense jawbone, which can make removal more difficult.

**Like all teeth, wisdom teeth** develop inside an opening (socket) in your jawbone, protected by bone and gum tissue until they erupt. Over time, your wisdom teeth become more firmly anchored as their roots lengthen and the jawbone becomes more dense. So, the older you are, the more complicated it is to remove your wisdom teeth.

### WISDOM TEETH PROBLEMS

Whether wisdom teeth cause your mouth harm depends on several factors, including the size of your jaw and how your wisdom teeth grow in. Sometimes, problematic wisdom teeth cause symptoms like pain and swelling. Or you may have no symptoms at all, but the other teeth in your mouth could be at risk for damage.

**Gum disease.** When a wisdom tooth partially breaks through the gum's surface, bacteria can get under the tissue and cause an infection.

**Crowding.** An impacted or erupting wisdom tooth can push on adjacent teeth, causing them to become crooked or even damage them structurally.

**Decay.** A wisdom tooth that is hard to clean due to its position or because it is partially covered by gum tissue may develop a cavity. This could also lead to decay on the adjacent tooth.

**Poor position.** A wisdom tooth that grows towards the cheek can irritate nearby tissue. If an erupted tooth is crooked, it may become hard to bite down comfortably.

**Cysts.** If the sac that holds the crown remains in the bone, it can fill with fluid and form a cyst that can destroy surrounding bone. These can become quite destructive.

## THE ADVANTAGES OF EARLY REMOVAL

- **Easier Procedure**
- **Less Risks**
- **Healthier Patient**
- **Easier time with recovery**
- **Less Dental Disease/Problems**



**We treat people of all ages for removal of wisdom teeth. We are specialists at it and we do it well. There is no question that earlier is better. No matter what your age, it is going to be easier and less risky to take care of it sooner.**