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## Be One Step Ahead with Velscope Oral Cancer Screening

Vienna Smiles is committed to providing our patients with the latest technology for overall dental health. One of the most valuable services made available to our patients is the Velscope, a screening tool for early detection of oral cancer.

Although each patient receives a thorough head and neck examination, checking for enlarged lymph nodes, thyroid movement, cheek, tongue, throat and soft tissue changes in the mouth, the Velscope provides a much deeper look, with a safe blue light that causes the tissue to “fluoresce”, revealing any early cell changes that cannot be seen visually and may require further examination. Areas that cannot be confirmed as inflammation or trauma will require further monitoring. Either a return visit for a second examination with the Velscope, or an immediate referral to an oral surgeon for an exam and possible biopsy.

We feel fortunate to have had success in early detection and successful resolution of tissue changes found with our Velscope in some patients. It's gratifying to know that by early detection we have made a difference in the quality of their lives.

For individuals who feel they are not at risk of oral cancer because there is no history of smoking or tobacco use, it is still important to remember there are other risk factors, such as viruses, reflux, environmental inhalants, sun exposure and a weakened immune system.

The Velscope examination is recommended once a year for everyone, an easy screening to detect a potentially life threatening disease.

### MEET THE TEAM...



Mariana

Mariana joined Vienna Smiles last year as a Receptionist. She is always smiling and very caring for our patients. She loves going to work knowing she is part of a comforting work family.

Mariana enjoys spending time with her 3 nephews and 1 niece and watching them grow up.

She likes adventures, long walks, music, and dancing.

Thank you for bringing a smile in our patients' lives, Mariana!

## Dominican Republic Mission Trip



The Smiles Team is off to a great challenge! Dr. Barakat and his team decided to go on a [mission trip to Dominican Republic](#) May 17-19 to provide FREE dental care to the people in need.

Located in "Bateyes" (small towns of sugarcane field workers), the population works very hard in the

fields to earn on average \$5 a day. Most of the people don't have transportation to the city to seek treatment, and cannot afford any dental care. Many children don't wear shoes and the babies do not always wear diapers because no one has money to buy them.

A fundraising contest was organized February 17 to March 31 to determine the 4 staff members who will join the mission trip. The ones raising the most money will be selected to participate in this great adventure!

Stay tuned and discover in the next newsletter who was picked to go to Dominican Republic, and we will tell you everything about the trip.

## A Day in School



February is National Children's Dental Health Month, and for the occasion, Dr. Barakat and Dr. Bobbio met with Vienna Presbyterian Church Preschool and Waples Mill Elementary School students to talk to them about dental care.

It is crucial to start learning good dental care habits at an early age, so children will keep this routine throughout their life and preserve their smile!

During the presentation, the students learned how much tooth paste to put on the toothbrush: "Just a dot, not a lot!".

They counted the 32 teeth of George the dental model, became masters at brushing and flossing their teeth, and determined which drinks and food contained the least amount of sugar.

All had a great time! If you would like for our Doctors to give a presentation at your school next year, please reach out to us and we will be happy to schedule a meeting.



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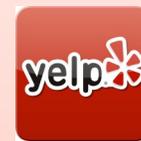


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