

Family Dentists Drs. Iwona and Aggie Iwaszczyszyn at their offices in The Foundry of Barrington.

Something to Smile About

GENTLE ROUTINE, RESTORATIVE, AND COSMETIC DENTAL CARE

ittle comforts, like a beverage bar in the waiting room, a massage option on examining room chairs, soft blankets, specialty pillows that contour the head and neck, and a TV for anyone who prefers a distraction, are intended to put patients at ease during visits to Hart Dental.

The practice, founded in 2018 by Agnieszka Iwaszczyszyn, DMD or "Dr. Aggie" for short, provides routine, restorative, and cosmetic dental care to children and adults from its modern, hightech office at The Foundry of Barrington, 728 W. Northwest Highway. "Our goal is to make the dental experience comfortable and fun," said Dr. Aggie. "We want to inspire patients to take care of their teeth and not avoid going to the dentist."

HIGH-LEVEL DENTISTRY

Dr. Aggie and her associate in the practice, Dr. Iwona, who also happens to be Dr. Aggie's Mom, focus on the whole patient and not just their teeth and gums. Besides performing routine dental exams and cleanings, they screen for oral cancer, treat sleep apnea, and offer dermal fillers like Juvederm and Botox that erase fine lines, for patients who want to freshen up their appearance. Many of their patients suffer pain in their jaw, ears, and/or face caused by TMJ and TMD, Temporomandibular Joint Disorders, that Dr. Iwona is expert at diagnosing and treating.

Equipped with the latest technology and sedation options to provide individualized care to each patient, the dental team performs oral surgery (wisdom teeth and routine tooth extractions); restorative dentistry (implants, crowns, bridges, fillings, inlays and onlays); phase one orthodontics for children; and cosmetic procedures (porcelain veneers, tooth contouring, crown lengthening and teeth whitening)—all on-site.

INDIVIDUALIZED CARE

A firm believer in educating patients, Dr. Aggie always explains in detail the problem and solution, using 3D X-rays and panoramic shots of gums and teeth as visuals. Taking it a step further, she checks in with patients during procedures, to see if they are comfortable or in need of frequent breaks, something she provides without hesitation. "When I was younger and saw a dentist who wasn't my mom, I felt overwhelmed, like I was drowning the whole time," she said. "It's something I remember vividly that I prevent."

A FAMILY AFFAIR

Fluent in Polish, Dr. Aggie emigrated from Poland to the U.S. at the age of eight. In high school, she dreamt of becoming a teacher until she shadowed her mom at work and tagged along on missionary trips. "I loved that she could have an impact on somebody every single day and it didn't have to be a roomful of kids," Dr. Aggie said. "It could be one-on-one." Not surprisingly, Dr. Iwona has also inspired two other young women to become dentists, simply by inviting them to shadow her, much like she did for her daughter.

After graduating from the College of Dentistry at the University of Illinois in Chicago, Dr. Aggie gained experience at another practice before her entrepreneurial spirit kicked in and she went off on her own. Working with her mom has proven to be extremely valuable. "She always inspires us to do better, to read up on the latest articles and breakthroughs in research," Dr. Aggie said of Dr. Iwona's influence on the entire team. "She is an inspiration to women; that a woman can do it." Dentistry is not the only thing she and her mom have in common; they are both married to engineers.

Hart Dental is located at The Foundry of Barrington, 728 W. Northwest Highway. Office hours are Mondays through Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Fridays, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. To make an appointment, call 847-865-4278. Visit online at hartdentalbarrington.com.

Melanie Kalmar is a freelance writer specializing in business and human-interest features. When she's not writing, she enjoys spending time with her family.