

Dr. Christine Marie Melito



Dr. Christine Marie Melito graduated magna cum laude from Northeastern University with a B.S. in Cardiopulmonary Science in 1997. After she practiced as a respiratory therapist for three years, she began her dental training. She received her DMD degree in 2004 from Tufts University School of Dental

Medicine, where she graduated summa cum laude. Dr. Melito was elected into the Alumni membership in the XI-XI Chapter of Omicron Kappa Upsilon, a National Dental Honor Society.

She then received her Masters of Science degree in Dentistry and a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study in Endodontics from Boston University Goldman School of Dental Medicine in 2007. She has been in private practice in endodontics since that time. Dr. Melito is a member of the American Association of Endodontists, the American Dental Association, and the Massachusetts Dental Society. She presented the results of her thesis research at the 2006 AAE Annual Session in Honolulu.

Dr. Melito is a Massachusetts native and lives with her husband Mark and son Dominic in Saugus. In her spare time, she enjoys running, cooking and traveling.

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Clinical Update:

Partnership Key to Long Term Success of Endodontic Therapy



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Clinical Update: Partnership Key to Long Term Success of Endodontic Therapy

IMPLANT PLACEMENT AS AN ALTERNATIVE to endodontic therapy remains an unparalleled advancement in dentistry. With continual improvement in implant systems and ease of use, trends toward implant placement to replace teeth that were one time treated endodontically have soared. Although we as endodontists believe that implants have a critical role in dentistry, we also want to educate the general dentist about the “power of endodontics.” When done properly and when restored in a timely manner, endodontic therapy does work!

With that being said, it is important to note that numerous studies have shown that prevention of coronal leakage remains a key element to the long term success of endodontic therapy. A recent, broad study of treatment outcome in endodontics has shown a favorably high rate of success (tooth retention.) The study, published in the December 2004 edition of the *Journal of Endodontics* by Robert Salehrabi, DDS, and Ilan Rotstein, DDS, tracked 1,462,936 teeth and 1,126,288 patients. 97% of the teeth treated as part of this study were retained, and, of the remaining 3%, 85% were lost due to lack of a permanent restoration.

The data was extracted from a national database maintained by Delta Dental Insurance Data Center. The Center has been maintaining this database since 1993, and the patients within this study were tracked over a period of eight years. It is interesting to note that most endodontic clinical failures were indicated within three years of initial treatment, and that none of the extracted teeth had full coronal coverage.

It is clear that a higher rate of retention could be obtained through a stronger partnership between the general or restorative dentists and the endodontist. Teeth that have undergone endodontic therapy need to be restored as soon as possible to prevent coronal leakage or fracture. Educating the patients in your office about the sequence of treatment after endodontics is complete will aid in allowing us to reinforce the critical nature of a final restoration as they leave our office. Although we do our best to guide the patient, communication between our offices is critical, and Endodontics of Malden is committed to performing the necessary root canal therapy and ensuring the patient returns to your office for restorative care.

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Dr. Jacinta Fernandes



Dr. Fernandes’ career in Dentistry began when she was 17 years old at the Goa Dental College in Goa, India. She was awarded the B.D.S. degree in 1986 from Government Dental College and Hospital in Bombay. She participated in the “All India Entrance Exams” in 1988, placing 22nd and received the M.D.S. degree in ‘Operative Dentistry and Endodontics’ at Nair Hospital Dental College in Bombay, India in 1991. She joined her family in the U.S., where she continued her education and attained the D.D.S. degree from New York University College of Dentistry in 1994. Upon completion, she attended The University of Medicine and Dentistry at the New Jersey Dental School and completed the Postgraduate program in Endodontics in 1996.

Dr. Fernandes opened ‘Endodontics of Malden’ in January 2005 after acquiring an existing location from the highly regarded Endodontics, Inc. Thus, accomplishing one of her professional dreams – maintaining a successful state of the art endodontic practice where her patients would receive the utmost care and respect.

Dr. Fernandes continues her education and shares her knowledge on a regular basis with her colleagues. She is a member of the American Association of Endodontists, the American Dental Association, The Massachusetts Dental Association and the East Middlesex District Dental Society. Dr. Fernandes served as the secretary of the East Middlesex District for 6 years.

When not indulged in Dentistry, Dr. Fernandes devotes her time to her family, her husband Vinny and children – Aparna, Vikram and 11 year old Analiese. A luxury for the busy doctor these days is curling up ‘uninterrupted’ with a good book, gardening and travelling AKA ‘just getting away’!