



OPEN WIDE AND SAY *Spa!*

BY JOE HALBRUCKER

*Your dentist's office may not be the first place you would consider going to enhance your looks for your wedding.* Today, in Central Florida, there are a handful of dental offices catering to just that. All in an inviting spa like setting!

# *White Wedding... White Smile... Perfect Match!*

There is nothing that can make a bride more stunning than a beautiful smile. As you walk down the aisle on your special day, your smile will radiate your inner happiness.

- ◆ Whitening
- ◆ Porcelain Veneers
- ◆ Porcelain Crowns
- ◆ Cosmetic Bonding
- ◆ General Dentistry

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*Alafaya Center For*

**COSMETIC & FAMILY  
DENTISTRY**

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*“You can have your teeth lightened several shades in one two-hour visit.”*

Popular reality shows like *Extreme Make Over* have made local brides want to

enhance their smiles before their big day. Celebrities such as Halle Barry, Heather Locklear, and the two Courtneys, Love and Cox-Arquette have all had smile enhancements. Now brides can get the star treatment right here in Central Florida.

The two most sought after procedures that brides seek out are whitening or “Zoom” whitening and porcelain veneers. First, in regard to whitening, Dr. Gary Michaelson, of the *Alafaya Center For Cosmetic & Family Dentistry* says, “you can have your teeth lightened several shades in one two-hour visit.” The client is then given custom fit trays to up keep their appearance for as long as six months.

Over-the-counter white strips generally only cover about six front teeth. The “OTC” strips also are not custom fit to each tooth. In-office whitening on the other hand, is much stronger, and more precise, covering the entire tooth.

If you have existing dental work such as, caps or porcelain, no whitening method will work. This brings us to veneers. With veneering, a thin shell of porcelain is permanently adhered to the facing of a natural tooth. This procedure changes the appearance



of spaces, crooked or miss-aligned teeth, as well as whitens, generally in two visits.



“Brides are not the only ones getting smile enhancements for the wedding these days. Grooms and mothers of the bride also want to look their best,” adds Dr. Michaelson.



That “tooth”, the chipped or discolored one that would keep your mom from smiling in your wedding photos, can now be corrected in a couple short procedures.

A day at the Spa Dentist is also becoming a popular place for the bride to take her girls for an afternoon of pampering and smile brightening.

At Dr. Michaelson’s office you are greeted by an inviting waiting room with assorted beverages and snacks while you make your spa selections.

The spa menu contains several amenities. From back and neck massages, to chilled eye compresses, to aromatherapy neck wraps, and paraffin wax hand therapy. In addition, there is a selection of meditation and music CDs to choose from along with a variety of movies on DVD.

You are handed hot towels upon completion of your treatment, and the restroom is fully stocked with lotions, perfumes, lipsticks and mouthwash. All there to help you freshen up.

Spa dentistry is not just an unattainable luxury that only the stars can afford. Your guests will see your smile as often as they see your dress. So, what are you waiting for? Open wide and say spa! **JH**