The Department of Dentistry at St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center offers patients the full spectrum of oral and maxillofacial health services. Urgent and emergent oral health care is readily accessible and, when possible, comprehensive treatment may be provided as well. Dentists conduct oral examinations, take x-rays, develop treatment plans and do oral hygiene and preventive procedures. Restorations (fillings), endodontic treatment (pulpotomies and root canals), extractions, crowns (caps) and periodontal therapy (gum treatment including surgery) may be offered as is orthodontic treatment (braces).

The department's oral and maxillofacial surgeons treat diseases and conditions of the mouth, jaws and associated tissues of the face. Ranging from impacted teeth and tongue tie to cancer and complex craniofacial deformities. As an integral part of St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center's trauma service, our oral and maxillofacial surgeons manage the full spectrum of maxillofacial injuries such as fractures of facial bones including the jaws, cheekbones, nose, eye sockets, and forehead.

Oral and maxillofacial surgery is also a key specialty in the Regional Craniofacial Center. Procedures performed by oral and maxillofacial surgeons include bone grafting for patients with cleft lip and palate, distraction osteogenesis, orthognathic surgery and other reconstructive procedures involving the soft and hard tissues of the mouth and face.

Orthognathic surgery is offered not only to cleft patients, but also to individuals with jaw growth discrepancies and to adults with sleep apnea. Such reconstruction may also be required as a consequence of trauma or the removal of pathologic lesions such as cysts and benign tumors of the mouth and jaws and as part of the treatment of oral cancer.

Oral and maxillofacial surgeons use cutting-edge techniques and methods including dental implants to support dental prostheses and craniofacial implants to support prosthetic facial parts including ears, eyes and noses. Bone growth factors now make it possible to guide the regeneration of bone and reduce the need for harvesting bone from sites like the rib and hip.
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