



Comprehensive Oral Implantology Program

Clinical Residency Sites and Directing Supervisors (Alphabetically listed by last name)

Dr. Charles Buist

Co-Director with Dr. Andrew MacConnell

Center for Family & Implant Dentistry

<http://www.plantingsmiles.dental/index.html>

Kingsport, TN

Dr Buist was born in Charleston, SC, and he graduated from Auburn University with a BS in Chemistry in 1978. Thereafter, he attended the University of Alabama School of Dentistry in Birmingham, AL and graduated in 1982 with a DMD. Since the beginning of his career, Dr Buist has been fascinated with implant dentistry. He is a Diplomate with the American Board of Oral Implantology / Implant Dentistry, and he is also a Fellow in the American Academy of Implant Dentistry. Dr Buist holds dental licenses in 12 states, and he has limited his practice to implant surgery and prosthetics since 2010. Additionally, around 2016, Dr Buist began patenting his ideas, and he currently holds 4 patents for dental implant instruments, 1 patent for Implant placement method, and 1 patent for an implant design.

Dr. James W. Gibney

Gibney Dentistry

<https://jameswgibneydmd.com/>

Spring Hill, Florida

Just North of Saint Petersburg and Tampa

Dr. Gibney is a 1985 graduate of the University of Florida College of Dentistry and a 2009 graduate of Stetson University College of Law. He currently practices dentistry and law in Spring Hill, FL. Dr. Gibney is a Diplomate of the American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry, a Master in the Academy of General Dentistry and a Fellow in the American Academy of Implant Dentistry. He is the developer of "24 Hour Teeth" which is a two-part system of fabricating crowns and bridges combined with a digital approach to implant dentistry allowing the fully edentulous patient to be restored with provisional fixed prostheses in as little as 24 hours after the initial consult.

Dr. Cody Gronsten

Dental Health Partners

<https://www.dhpsmiles.com/>

Mitchell, South Dakota

Dr. Gronsten completed his undergraduate studies in biology from Creighton University and obtained a Master of Science degree in neuroanatomy at Colorado State University. His dental education was achieved at Creighton University School of Dentistry. As a student, he was recognized for endodontic (root canal) excellence and received an award by the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons for excellence in surgical dental implant placement. In the spring of 2014, Dr. Gronsten completed a postgraduate implant residency of 300 additional hours of continuing education focused on all aspects of dental implant placement and prosthetics and completed a second implant residency in 2017. This course included an additional 510 hours of instruction in all aspects of advanced dental implant placement, prosthetics, and intravenous sedation. Dr. Gronsten is a member of the American Dental Association, South Dakota Dental Association, Academy of General Dentistry, and American Academy of Implant Dentistry.

Dr. Alfred “Duke” Heller

Co-Director with Dr. Rob Heller

Oral Implants & Reconstructive Dentistry

<https://www.oirdental.com/>

Lewis Center, Ohio

Alfred Heller, DDS, M. S., has placed more than 20,000 implants since 1969. He earned his DDS (1962) and M. S. (1974) from The Ohio State University College of Dentistry. He is an Honored Fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry (AAID). He also served on the Admissions and Credentials Board of AAID for seven years. In 1980, he founded the Midwest Implant Institute (MII). He is Board Certified in Oral Implantology by the American Board of Oral Implantology. Additionally, Dr. Heller has served as President of the American Board of Oral Implantology (ABOI). Dr. Heller's participation with implant research has enabled him to advance and develop the field of implant surgery. Dr. Heller has completed two FDA studies associated with dental implants and bone grafting materials. Dr. Heller has taught direct dental implant surgery post-graduate courses in eight American dental colleges. He and the Midwest Implant Faculty teach all different implant modalities as Dr. Heller believes that "Bone dictates the type of implant to be used that will best serve the patient."

Dr. Robert Heller

Co-Director with Dr. Duke Heller

Oral Implants & Reconstructive Dentistry

<https://www.oirdental.com/>

Lewis Center, Ohio

Dr. Robert Heller completed his undergraduate education at Ohio Wesleyan where he received a BA in Biology. He earned his DDS in 1988 from The Ohio State University College of Dentistry. Dr. Heller then continued with his prosthodontic residency at The Medical College of Virginia (1990) and completed his hospital-based implant residency/graduate training at Loma Linda University (1997). He served as President of the Ohio Section of the American College of Prosthodontists and Chairman for the Ohio Dental Association's Sub council on Young Dentists. He is an Associate Fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry, staff member at Grady Memorial Hospital, and serves on the Board of Directors of the Columbus Dental Society. Dr. Heller is an active member in The American Dental Association, Ohio Dental Association, Columbus Dental Society & American College of Prosthodontists. He has published multiple articles and continually presents lectures on a national. Dr. Heller currently serves as Director of the Midwest Implant Institute (MII). The Midwest Implant Institute helped seven Dental Schools develop their dental implant program and has taught thousands of doctors to become dental implant surgeons. Dr. Heller has trained these doctors in the hands-on externship of the Midwest Implant Institute. Since 1997, he has taught and surgically performed numerous courses ranging from implant placement to advanced bone grafting, lateral nerve repositioning, sinus elevation and numerous other surgical procedures. He continues to lecture on a national scale for multiple organizations, including the American Academy of Implant Dentistry (AAID).

Dr. Steven Hewett

Co-Director with Dr. Rajiv Patel

Implant & Comprehensive Dentistry

<https://hewettdds.com/>

Champions Gate, FL

Southwest of Orlando, Northeast of Tampa

Dr. Steven Hewett established his private comprehensive dental practice in 1990. During his time in Central Florida, Dr. Hewett has placed and restored over 10,000 dental implants giving back his patients the ability to function and smile again after losing their teeth. He has achieved some of the highest awards in the field of dentistry including an Honored Fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry. Dr. Hewett has also directed his practice toward state-of-the-art general dentistry with emphasis on cosmetic procedures from a comprehensive approach. With 35 years of reconstructive implant dentistry and cosmetic experience, Dr. Hewett is dedicated to providing simple to complex procedures such as simple to complex dental tooth replacement (dental implants); Implant-supported complete dentures; Full mouth smile makeover (veneers and crowns); Retreatment of prior implant cases; Sinus and bone grafting; Soft tissue regeneration; Root canal therapy and surgical endodontics; Surgical extractions.

Dr. Andrew Wayne Kelly

Dental Center of the Carolinas

<https://dentalcenterofthecarolinas.com/>

Winston Salem and Greensboro, NC

Dr. Kelly's professional career has led him to establish several practices in California and North Carolina. It also afforded him the opportunity to move into the type of Dentistry he had long envisioned, Oral Implantology while continuing Family & Cosmetic Dentistry. Since arriving in North Carolina, Dr. Kelly has served as a Deputy Examiner for the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners, and also donates several hours of his time to free dental clinics in the Piedmont Triad Area. Dr. Kelly is an active member of the Forsyth County Dental Society, The American Dental Association, The North Carolina Dental Society, The Piedmont Society of Advanced Dental Studies, International Congress of Oral Implantology, Fellowship in the Academy of General Dentistry and a Fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry and Diplomate of the American Board of Oral Implantology. Dr. Kelly has served as an examiner for the American Board of Oral Implantology and the American Academy of Implant Dentistry. Dr. Kelly is a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. and is a reviewer for the Journal of Oral Implantology and the International Journal of Oral & Maxillofacial Implants. He is also on the membership committee of the Academy of Osseointegration. Past President of the southern region of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry. Highlights of Dr. Kelly's educational pursuits include an undergraduate degree in Medical Microbiology with a minor in Chemistry from California State University at Long Beach 1979; a graduate degree from Howard University College of Dentistry, 1983; Core Vent Implant Institute from 1988. Medical College of Georgia Implant MaxiCourse, 2003.

Dr. Chad Lewison

Dental Implant Group

<https://www.dentalimplantgroupsd.com/>

Canton, SD

Dr. Lewison earned his undergraduate degree from South Dakota School of Mines and Technology and later his D.D.S. from Creighton University School of Dentistry in May 2002. Dr. Lewison's society memberships include the American Dental Association; American Academy of Implant Dentistry; Associate Fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry; Diplomate of the American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry; and was the past president Alabama Implant Study Group. His teaching experience spans Assistant Professor (Clinician-Educator dental implants) in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Assistant Professor (Clinician-Educator dental implants) in the Department of Periodontology at Creighton University. Dr. Lewison has been in private practice since 2002 and has honed his expertise in the area of dental implants.

Dr. William Liang

Smile Dental Implant Center

<https://implant.ca/>

Surrey, British Columbia

Canada

Dr. Liang a Diplomate, American Board of Oral Implantology, attended the University of British Columbia and received his bachelor's degree in Microbiology in 1981 and his Doctor of Dental Medicine degree in 1983. At graduation, he was awarded the Canadian Oral and Maxillo-Facial Prize for highest standing in the area of Oral Surgery. His credentials include Fellow, Academy of General Dentistry; Diplomate, International Congress of Oral Implantology; Fellow, American Academy of Implant Dentistry; Honored Fellow, The American Academy of Implant Dentistry; and Diplomate Credentialed, The American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry. Dr. Liang's is also recognized as Past President, The American Academy of Implant Dentistry – Western District; Admissions committee, U.B.C. Faculty of Dentistry; President, Academy of R.V. Tucker Study Clubs; Part time member, Faculty of Dentistry at U.B.C., restorative dentistry; President, White Rock/Peace Arch Rotary Club; Recipient, CDSBC Award of Distinction and CDSBC Award of Merit; Director, Canadian Dental Implant Training Centre, and Director, AAID Vancouver MaxiCourse, a UBC Continuing Dental Education program. Dr Liang's private practice focuses on dental implants, denture stabilization, dental implant maintenance, aesthetic restorative dentistry, laser gum therapy, sedation, tooth extractions, bone reconstruction, soft tissue surgery, and general dentistry.

Dr Andrew MacConnell

Co-Director with Dr. Charles Buist
Center for Family & Implant Dentistry
<http://www.plantingsmiles.dental/index.html>
Kingsport, TN

Dr. MacConnell's educational pursuits span Lebanon Valley College in Annville, PA; Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ; Clemson University, SC.; Emory University Dental School finishing in the top of his class where he earned my Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) in 1984; and University Of Alabama School Of Dentistry's Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Department where he completed a residency in IV Moderate Sedation. He also studied dental implants with the Midwest Dental Implant Institute in Columbus, Ohio and completed their dental implant externship program in August of 2014 and then earned a fellowship from them shortly thereafter (MIIF). Dr. MacConnell has been a general dentist and in private practice since 1984 and currently serves the Tennessee Tri-Cities region. He regularly travels nationally and internationally to lecture and learn.

Dr. Meyur Mehta

Eastlake Center for Implants & Restorative Dentistry
<https://www.eastlakecenterforimplants.com/>
Palm Harbor, Florida.

Dr. Mehta received his bachelor's degree in Dentistry in 1982 and his master's degree in Oral and Maxillo Facial Plastic Surgery in 1984 from Gujarat University in India. After completion of his postgraduate study, Dr. Mehta served as Associate Professor in Oral and Maxillo Facial Surgery at B.E.A Dental College and Hospital in India. During his tenure there, he published scientific articles in American and International Journals. After arriving in Florida in 1988, Dr. Mehta received his dental licensure degree through the University of Florida Gainesville. His postgraduate studies in dental implants were completed at the Medical College of Georgia under the sponsorship of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry. Dr. Mehta is a Diplomat of the American Board of Oral Implantology, Life Fellow of the International Association of Oral and Maxillo Facial Surgeons, Fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry, Fellow of the International Congress of Oral Implantologists and Diplomat of the International Congress of Oral Implantologists. Dr. Mehta's private practice is located in Palm Harbor, FL.

Dr. James Miller

Co-Director with Drs Shane Samy and Duane Starr

James A Miller DMD

<https://drjamesamiller.com/>

Hillsboro (Portland), Oregon

Dr. Miller has been in private practice since 1981 and is skilled in I.V. sedation, dental implants, bone and connective tissue grafting as well as cosmetic dentistry and full mouth rehabilitation. He graduated from OHSU School of Dentistry in 1979. After becoming a member of the Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) in 1981, he achieved his Fellowship in 1989 and Master in 2005. He has been a member of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry (AAID) since 2008 and is an AAID Honored Fellow. Dr. Miller received board certification with the title Diplomat of the American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry in 2014. In addition, he was awarded his Fellowship with the AAID. Dr. Miller also serves on the Ethics Committee for the AAID. Dr. Miller has taught and continues to teach hands on dental implant dentistry in the Oregon Dental Implant Continuum residency course as well as connective tissue grafting courses for the Oregon AGD. He was President of the Academy of Cosmetic and Adhesive Dentistry from 1991-92.

Dr. Joseph Miller

Pine Hills Dentistry

<https://www.pinehillsdentistry.com/>

Grass Valley, CA. Located a little over 1 hour from Sacramento International Airport, heading East towards Reno, in the foothills of the Sierra MT range.

Dr. Miller earned his bachelor's degrees in Spanish and International Relations then attended the University of Puerto Rico, School of Dental Medicine. Upon graduation, he was commissioned as an officer in the United States Navy. Dr. Miller completed an Advanced Education in General Dentistry (AEGD) Residency at the prestigious Naval Base / Naval Hospital San Diego, CA. Dr. Miller also completed a Master's in Business Administration while stationed with the Marine Corps in Twenty-nine Palms, California. While in the Navy, Dr. Miller worked directly with and under the mentorship of over 20 different specialists in all areas of dentistry, including Oral Surgery, Implant Dentistry, Endodontics, Periodontics, Prosthodontics, and TMJ. Dr. Miller continues to expand his knowledge through hundreds of hours of continuing education. In 2019, Dr. Miller graduated from the prestigious Implant MaxiCourse in Puerto Rico. He also challenged and passed the rigorous boarding process to be awarded Diplomate of the American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant dentistry.

Dr. John C. Minichetti

The Center for Implants and Aesthetics

<https://www.inglewooddental.com/>

Englewood, New Jersey

Dr. John C. Minichetti, General Dentist, Director of Implant and Reconstructive Dentistry of Englewood, has years of experience in cosmetic dentistry, implantology, and prosthetic reconstruction. Dr. Minichetti graduated from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, where he finished first in his class. He then completed a postdoctoral specialized training program at the Mount Sinai Medical Center. He has been the recipient of numerous awards, including those for oral medicine, pharmacology, and oral and maxillofacial surgery. Dr. Minichetti has published many scientific articles and received his fellowship in several academics. He is an attending of Englewood Hospital and Jersey City Medical Center. He is also an attending on staff at Englewood Hospital for over 20 years. Besides his outstanding academic and clinical skills, Dr. Minichetti is committed to his practice and patients foremost. Dr. Minichetti is affiliated with these associations, Fellow of the Academy of General Dentistry; Fellow of the Int'l Congress of Oral Implantology; Diplomate of the American Board of Oral Implantology; Fellow of the Academy of Implant Dentistry; Fellow of the Int'l Academy for Implant Dental Facial Esthetics; President – Bergen County Dental Implant Group; American Dental Association; New Jersey State Dental Association; and Past President of AAID.

Dr. Rajiv Patel

Co-Director with Dr. Steven Hewett
Implant & Comprehensive Dentistry
<https://hewettdds.com/>
Champions Gate, FL
Southwest of Orlando, Northeast of Tampa

Dr. Rajiv Patel combines advanced dental technology and training with the proven concepts of dental medicine to provide sophisticated service and comprehensive dental care. He is one of the select few General Dentists certified to do Sedation in a Dental Office Setting. Dr. Rajiv Patel is a Diplomate of American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry (ABOI/IDI); a Fellow of the American Academy of Implant dentistry (AAID); and a Fellow of International Congress of Oral Implantologists (ICOI). His academic credentials include B.D.S. (Gujarat University, India – 1979); M.D.S. - Prosthodontics (Gujarat University, India – 1981); and MCG - AAID MaxiCourse graduate 2006. Dr. Patel has also served as an office bearer of AAID Southern District; a Trustee of AAID for 4 years; President of the Mid-Florida Implant Study Group; and an AAID Study Group/Mentor for several years. Dr. Patel's speaking engagements include AAID Southern District meeting in 2011 in Jamaica; AAID Southern District meeting in 2014 Ft Lauderdale FL; AAID Southern District meeting in 2016 St Petersburg, FL; AAID central district meeting in 2017 Chicago; Alabama Implant Study Group Meeting in Duluth MN in 2019; and Alabama Implant Study Group Meeting in Duluth MN in 2021.

Dr. Shane Samy

Co-Director with Drs. James Miller and Duane Starr
Implant Evolution
<https://implantevolution.com/>
Eugene, Oregon

Dr. Shane Samy is a Diplomate of the American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry, and a Fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry. Post Dental school, Dr. Samy spent over a decade earning the necessary certifications that enable him to perform dental implant surgeries from start to finish, all in one office, all by one doctor to assure your treatment is done correctly. Dr. Samy has earned the dental implant industry's highest credentials through his extensive education, study groups, and patient successes. Dr. Samy is currently the Director & Instructor for the Oregon Implant Continuum where he educates and instructs Oregon dentists on the proper dental implant treatments, from basic implant placement to treating the most complicated full mouth restorations.

Dr. John R. Striebel

John R. Striebel Dentistry

<https://johnrstriebeldds.com/>

Miamisburg Ohio, on the south side of Dayton, 30 minutes north of Cincinnati.

John R. Striebel, DDS, FICOI, AFAAID is a graduate of the University of Dayton in 1983 and Loyola University of Chicago School of Dentistry in 1986. He took three years of study in Straight Wire Orthodontics and Functional Orthopedics in Chicago and the American Orthodontic Society in Cincinnati. He completed implant training at the University of Pittsburgh, an externship at the Midwest Implant Institute in Columbus, Ohio, and an GHSU/AAID Maxi-Course comprehensive training program in implant dentistry at the Medical College of Georgia in 2011. He is a Fellow with the International Congress of Oral Implantologists, an Associate Fellow with the American Academy of Implant Dentistry, and a Diplomate of the American Board of Oral Implantology. He has advanced training in cone beam computed tomography, Invisalign orthodontics, Cerec digital imaging, and Xnav guided implant surgery. He is an active member of the American Dental Association, the Academy of General Dentistry, the Dayton Dental Society, the Ohio Dental Association, the American Orthodontic Society, the American Academy of Implant Dentistry, the American Board of Oral Implantology, and the International Congress of Oral Implantologists.

Dr. Doug Wirth

Whidbey Dental Associates

<https://www.whidbeydental.com/>

Oak Harbor, WA

Dr. Doug Wirth attended Bethany College in Bethany, West Virginia for his undergraduate studies and attended Tufts University School of Dental Medicine in Boston, MA, earning his Doctor of Dental Medicine degree in 1979. Since opening his private practice, Dr. Wirth has continued to advance his training in dentistry by completing extended education programs in endodontics, oral implantology, smile design, cosmetic dentistry, and CEREC® crown technology. Each year, he regularly attends classes to stay on top of innovative technology and techniques, bringing these benefits to his patients at Whidbey Dental Associates. Dr. Wirth's professional affiliations include American Academy of Implant Dentistry, Associate Fellow; International Congress of Oral Implantologists, Fellow; Academy of Osseointegration; American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry; American Dental Association; and Washington State Dental Association.

[Make an Appointment](#)

**Ben Southern, MBA '19,
Associate Director of Graduate Recruitment,
Jacksonville University**

[Visit us Virtually](#)

**904-256-7293
bsouthe@ju.edu**