## **Periodontal Maintenance**

It has been a pleasure working with you and providing the active phase of your nonsurgical periodontal treatment. We are proud of what we have accomplished together to manage this non-curable disease. You are now ready to begin the vitally important maintenance phase which will monitor, stabilize and control your periodontal disease.

According to the American Academy of Periodontology, "following a course of active periodontal treatment and periodic ongoing care at regularly prescribed intervals is essential. The majority of clinical studies have shown that 3 months is the most effective in controlling disease."

Periodontal disease or infection can recur. Continuous maintenance is absolutely necessary to prevent this periodontal infection from becoming active once again and destroying any healing that has occurred. When periodontal disease recurs following treatment, it may do so without signs or symptoms to the patient. This is why regular, frequent periodontal maintenance visits are so very important. The following treatment is included in a periodontal maintenance appointment.

- Evaluation of oral health to detect subtle signs of disease recurrence
- Appropriate debridement of teeth and gums
- Antimicrobial therapy to destroy difficult to reach bacteria
- Evaluation of homecare regimes and aids
- Oral health evaluation including oral cancer screening