

CENTURY ORTHODONTICS

OUR THIRD CENTURY OF ORTHODONTIC EXCELLENCE

Dr. Robert Waxler & Dr. Jeffrey Cavanaugh

CLAYTON ■ MANCHESTER ■ WILDWOOD □ MISSOURI

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Propel

Our office is one of the first in St. Louis to offer the ***Propel*** appliance designed to speed your orthodontic treatment. Rather than try and describe this appliance and its use we are referring you to the provided brochure and website (accedent.com).

In orthodontics there have been many inventions and techniques that have been developed over the years to improve orthodontic treatment. Unfortunately, for every great idea that has led to a breakthrough in treatment, there have been 10 ideas that have been tried and eventually rejected.

We here at ***Century Orthodontics*** want to provide our patients with the best, most cutting edge technology but, at the same time, we want to feel comfortable that a new way of doing something is significantly better, and worth the cost, before we make it available for our patients.

Our interest in new technology goes back to our founder: Dr. Edward Angle, who established an orthodontic office in St. Louis over 100 years ago. This practice has been passed down from doctor to doctor, **Dr Waxler** is the 7th and **Dr. Cavanaugh** the 8th doctor in this line. Dr. Angle was one of the pioneers in orthodontics, inventing the edgewise orthodontic bracket which is the prototype of the orthodontic braces that are used by almost every orthodontist in the world. Although modified over the years, its basic principle of tooth movement has never been improved on!

In 1999, after careful investigation, we began using the ***Invisalign*** appliance....slowly and on easy cases at first, working up to very complex problems today that most other orthodontists would not attempt to do with removable appliances.

In contrast, during this same time period, some orthodontic companies have been promoting special “***speed***” and “***fast***” type braces that supposedly significantly reduce the time needed for orthodontic treatment. We did the research, tested some of them, and decided that they were mostly hype and not worth the extra cost! But we still searched for a way to speed orthodontic treatment as we know that reducing treatment time is something every patient wants. This is where ***Propel*** comes in.

After reviewing the research, the basic concept of ***Propel*** made sense to us, just as ***Invisalign*** did 14 years ago. So we have started (slowly) to offer it to our patients. If you are interested, read on!

- We feel that this appliance is safe....we would not be offering it if we didn't.
- Truthfully, we cannot guarantee how much faster it will move your teeth...we just don't have enough personal experience with it. Studies report a 30% to 100% increase in speed.
- ***Propel*** works with both ***Invisalign*** and regular braces