

PREMIER DENTAL NEWSLETTER



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EDITION 1

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FROM WALL STREET TO DENTAL CHAIRS

Becoming More Than Just a Cog in a Large Wheel

You might be surprised to know that your dentist, who has been fixing smiles for the past 20 years, began her career as a corporate journalist on Wall Street. But that's exactly what I did.

Prior to opening Premier Dental in 1999, I spent five years working for a firm on Wall Street, reporting daily on global economic news. We were one of the first firms to produce 24-hour digital news, and this was exciting. Yet I felt something was missing. My problem was that I never felt like my work had personal value. I felt like an anonymous cog in an indifferent wheel. I wanted my work to matter.

English and biology have always been my dual passions. While obtaining my bachelor's degree in English from City University of New York, I also completed several biology courses. This made it easier for me to change careers when my son, Raj, was 1 year old. I decided to become a dentist. Returning to school began a five-year journey of finishing science requirements, applying to dental school and then completing the four-year dental curriculum at Temple University. My five years included picking up Raj from daycare, late nights of homework, and coordinating schedules with my husband, Peter. It was one of the most challenging things I've ever done, but it has been worth every minute of stress and worry.

When it came to deciding where my biology ventures would take me, I originally had no interest in medical school, but found myself pulled toward dentistry: it combined a variety of sciences together – and as a creative person, I was drawn to the artistry of dental work. Your smile happens to be one of the first things people notice about you, I realized.

I have dedicated my career to improving your dental health, overall health, and creating an aesthetic look that gives you,

my patients, the confidence to be the best you can be.

Many practices put too many secondary objectives ahead of their patients' interests. At other doctors' offices, I've observed patient phone calls not being answered at the front desk, and patients kept waiting in the reception room well beyond their appointment times. I knew that Premier Dental could do better than that.

In 1999, I opened Premier Dental, and we grew quickly with the goal to ensure no patient feels forgotten. Patients experience minimal wait times in our reception room, and if you call during business hours someone will be there to pick up the phone. We also take the time to explain your treatment plan and provide options. If I didn't adhere to this philosophy in my dental practice, I might as well have stayed in corporate journalism.



—Hema Gopal, DMD