

Cedar Dental Group Adds In-House Endodontist Dr. Joseph Dutner to Renton Practice

Growing demand for root canal care without specialist referrals prompts Renton dental practice to expand its on-site clinical team.

RENTON, WA, UNITED STATES, August 4, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Cedar Dental Group, a general and cosmetic dental practice located at 280 Hardie Ave. SW in Renton, Washington, has added Dr. Joseph Dutner to its clinical team as an in-house endodontist. Dr. Dutner will provide [root canal therapy](#) and endodontic treatment directly at the Renton office, allowing patients who need this level of care to receive it without being referred to a separate specialist facility.

The addition reflects a broader shift in how patients in the South King County area are seeking dental care. Increasingly, adults researching treatment for infected, damaged, or severely decayed teeth are looking for practices that can manage complex cases from evaluation through completion under a single roof, rather than coordinating appointments across multiple providers in different locations.

“

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Dr. Chu



CEDAR DENTAL GROUP

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About Dr. Joseph Dutner

[Dr. Dutner is a board-certified endodontist](#) and currently serves as President of the American Board of Endodontics. His clinical work centers on the diagnosis and treatment of conditions affecting the inner tissue of the tooth, known as

the dental pulp, including infections, nerve damage, and decay that has progressed beyond what a filling or crown alone can address.

Root canal therapy, the procedure most commonly associated with endodontic care, involves removing infected or damaged pulp tissue, cleaning and shaping the interior canals of the tooth, and sealing the area to prevent reinfection. When performed by a specialist with advanced training in endodontic techniques, the procedure is aimed at preserving the natural tooth rather than extracting it, which in many cases supports better long-term oral health outcomes.

Dr. Dutner joins a clinical team that already includes Dr. Susan Chu, who leads the practice and manages general and [cosmetic dentistry](#), and Dr. Jaewon Kim, a board-certified periodontist who provides advanced periodontal and surgical care, including gum grafting, bone grafting, and periodontal surgery.

Why In-House Specialist Access Matters

For many patients in the Renton area, receiving a recommendation for root canal therapy has historically meant a referral out, which involves contacting a separate office, establishing care as a new patient, coordinating records and insurance, and managing two separate appointment streams for what is, clinically speaking, a connected course of treatment. The same dynamic has applied to patients needing periodontal surgery or bone grafting.

With Dr. Dutner now on-site, Cedar Dental Group can provide endodontic evaluation and treatment within the same facility where a patient receives their regular care with Dr. Chu. This means the treating dentist and the specialist share the same records, imaging, and treatment history, and the patient does not need to re-explain their situation to a new provider or navigate an unfamiliar office at a point in their care when they are often already experiencing discomfort or concern.

Patients who present with signs of pulp infection, which may include persistent tooth pain, sensitivity to temperature, swelling around the gum line, or discoloration of a tooth, can now be evaluated and, where appropriate, treated by an endodontist without leaving the practice.

The same is true for patients who require coordinated care across multiple treatment areas. For example, a tooth that needs root canal therapy may also require a crown placement afterward, which Dr. Chu manages, or may exist in a context of broader gum disease that Dr. Kim is treating. Having all three providers working within the same practice allows for treatment sequencing and communication that is difficult to replicate across separate facilities.

Dr. Susan Chu, owner and lead dentist at Cedar Dental Group, offered the following perspective on the addition:

"A patient who needs a root canal is already in a stressful situation. Being told they also need to

find a different office and start over with a new provider adds to that stress in a way that sometimes causes people to delay care they genuinely need. Having Dr. Dutner here means we can help people move forward with confidence, in a setting they already know, with a team they've already met."

Context for the Renton Market

Renton and the surrounding South King County communities, including Tukwila, Kent, Burien, and Newcastle, represent a growing patient base for specialty-adjacent dental services. The area's working-age adult population includes a substantial share of patients with PPO dental coverage and a demonstrated interest in practices that can manage restorative, cosmetic, and complex dental needs without requiring external referrals for specialist procedures.

Across the dental industry broadly, patient satisfaction with dental care is closely tied to continuity, with research consistently indicating that patients who manage all of their care within a single trusted setting report lower rates of treatment abandonment and higher completion of recommended procedures. Practices that offer in-house access to endodontic and periodontal specialists are positioned to serve patients who might otherwise defer or discontinue treatment when the referral process creates friction.

Cedar Dental Group now includes three credentialed providers covering general dentistry, board-certified periodontics, and board-certified endodontics. The practice accepts most major PPO dental insurance plans and offers payment plan options for patients managing out-of-pocket costs.

Patients in Renton, Tukwila, Kent, Burien, Newcastle, and the broader Seattle metro area who would like to learn more about endodontic care or schedule a consultation with Dr. Dutner can contact the practice directly.

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Cedar Dental Group is a dental practice located in Renton, Washington, providing general, cosmetic, restorative, endodontic, and advanced periodontal services to adults in Renton and surrounding South King County communities. The practice is led by Dr. Susan Chu and supported by in-house specialists Dr. Jaewon Kim and Dr. Joseph Dutner.

Dr. Susan Chu

Cedar Dental Group

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