

nofear

At **Ambler Dental Care**, patients discover comprehensive, compassionate dental care in a spa-like environment designed to eliminate fear of sitting in the dentist's chair. *by LIZ HUNTER photography by ZACH BLUM*

Walking through the doors of Ambler Dental Care may have you questioning if you're in the right place. You can smell the essential oils in the air. The waiting area feels like a friendly living room, with complimentary coffee, tea, and water. And the warm greetings from the staff put you immediately at ease. Suddenly, being at the dentist doesn't feel quite so scary.

This spa-like setting has been carefully curated by Drs. Jashank and Komal Sampat, the husband-and-wife team of dentists who took over the practice in 2016 from a doctor who retired after a 28-year career. While keeping the well-respected name in the community, as well as the staff, the doctors sought to modernize the office and the level of care for patients. Their No. 1 goal: "fearless dentistry."

"We hear the same theme from so many patients—they hate coming to the dentist," says Dr. Jashank. "For some people it can be the smell of the office or the sounds of the tools. We wanted to see what we could do to eliminate those feelings."

One of the first undertakings was a complete renovation of the office. The office had been "a little outdated" when the doctors took it over, but they had a vision for a modern design with advanced technology. Dr. Komal says they "gutted the entire thing and re-built it from the ground up."

Now, the examination rooms are outfitted with two 40-inch TVs, one on the wall in front of the chair, and one on the ceiling. Once seated, patients are offered "a comfort





In designing the office, Drs. Jashank and Komal Sampat incorporated the comforts of spas, salons, and boutique hotels. Each examination room, for example, has two 40-inch TVs—one on the wall in front of the chair, and one on the ceiling.

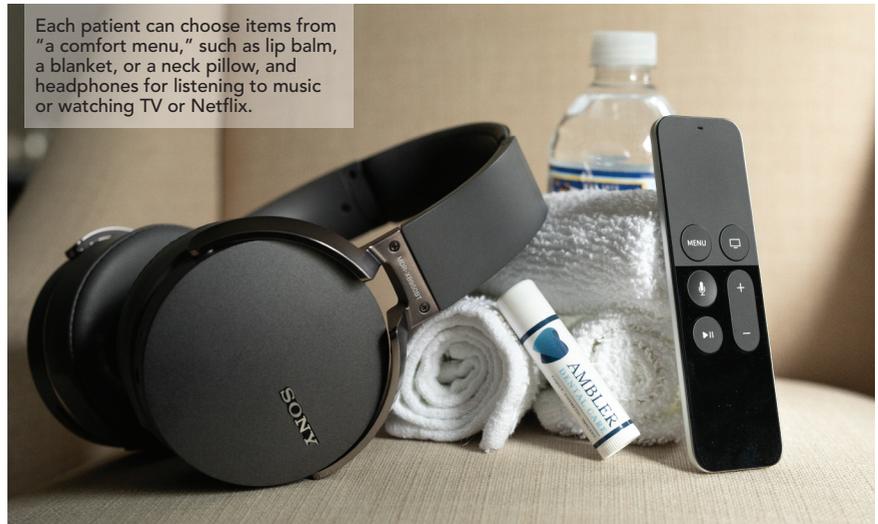
menu” from which they may select lip balm, a blanket, or a neck pillow, and headphones for listening to music or watching TV—even Netflix. Dr. Jashank says because patients often feel so relaxed with their blanket and headphones, it’s not unusual for them to doze off. But that doesn’t interfere with the dental work.

After treatment, patients are offered a warm scented towel to wipe their face, allowing them to leave the office feeling refreshed and ready to go back to work, out to complete errands, or wherever the day takes them. The whole experience resembles the hospitality industry than it does a dentist’s office.

“We thought about the places people love to go: spas, salons, boutique hotels,” says Dr. Jashank. “We stepped out of the dental industry and took the comforts of those places and incorporated them here to create something high end. When you walk in, your nerves melt away and you can relax while we take care of the treatment.”

Drs. Jashank and Komal earned their dental degrees from the Kornberg School of Dentistry at Temple University. After graduating, they pursued and completed a six-month implant continuum training course, furthering their ability to provide the most innovative treatment for prosthodontics and restorative and cosmetic dentistry. Only 5 percent of dentists in the country complete this course, according to Dr. Jashank, who is a member of the American Dental Association and the Academy of General Dentistry. He has also been declared an Elite Preferred Invisalign Provider, among the top 5 percent nationwide.

“Continuing education is extremely important to us,” he adds. “We’ve taken three times the amount required. We want patients to come in feeling confident and comfortable with how we take care of them. The dental



Each patient can choose items from “a comfort menu,” such as lip balm, a blanket, or a neck pillow, and headphones for listening to music or watching TV or Netflix.

field evolves every few years and we want to stay on top of the newest options out there.”

Technology and convenience rank high on the list of priorities at Ambler Dental Care. Because the doctors offer a wide range of services under one roof, patients have no need to go from specialist to specialist to complete their treatment. The practice provides dental cleanings, in-house fillings, crowns, root canals, dental implants, minor sinus lifts, and various cosmetic services, including teeth whitening and Invisalign. As part of their treatment plan, the doctors utilize the latest digital X-rays, which have the lowest amount of radiation, and intraoral cameras so a patient can see what the dentists see.

Additionally, the office provides the option for family block appointments, which allow parents and their children to be seen during the same visit.

“We provide the highest-quality treatment for every person of any age under one roof,” says Dr. Komal. “Too often when patients are sent to different offices, something falls

through the cracks. We get to see the whole treatment plan as it progresses and communicate with our team in the same room, rather than an email or phone call. We want patients to be educated and aware of the reasons we recommend certain treatment.”

Something that has become increasingly popular at Ambler Dental Care is the “smile refresh.” Overseen by Dr. Komal, this treatment option addresses neglected teeth or visible cavities using options such as dental implants, crowns, and veneers. Patients can play a vital role in the creation of their refreshed smile, by choosing the custom shade and shape of their new teeth. She recalls one of the first patients whose smile she helped transform.

“He was a former football player,” she says. “He had experienced trauma and was never able to chew properly or speak with confidence. We restored his entire bite and smile. Now we see him regularly, and every time he gets teary eyed. He loves what he

has now, and we realized the confidence we’re able to give patients. They stand taller with a brighter, whiter smile, and are happy with the way they look.”

Drs. Jashank and Komal hope to extend their services and compassionate care model beyond the walls of their Ambler office. Dr. Jashank has traveled to Nepal twice on dental mission trips, providing people in remote villages with vital dental care. The team at Ambler Dental Care has a goal of one day in the near future establishing a clinic in India.

Even so, their focus on improving dental health locally will only intensify. The practice has seen an influx of new patients and is working to train new dentists and staff to provide the same level of care Drs. Jashank and Komal have established.

“Our focus will always be on patients receiving the best treatment,” Dr. Komal says, “without fear of the dentist.” ■

➔ **AMBLER DENTAL CARE**
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