



Dr Angelo Lazaris is a leading expert in general and cosmetic dentistry. Using the latest state-of-the art technology and techniques, clients are assured of the most advanced treatment available. A contributor to top fashion magazines, Dr Lazaris has performed procedures on Channel Nine's Body Work and Fox 8's Australia's Search for the Next Top Model.

Uneven cheekbones

Question:

I had my top wisdom tooth & third molar in the bottom of my left side pulled out a long time ago; all my right side teeth/molars are still intact. I noticed that my left cheek sort of dropped compare to my right cheek. Can this be fixed by having my right wisdom teeth - top & bottom, pulled out to make both sides even?

I read somewhere that wisdom teeth haven't got any use anyway. I would love to hear what your thoughts are. I'm a bit embarrassed to mention this to my dentist because it sounds so vain.

Thank you & looking forward to your reply.

Answer:

Normally, wisdom teeth are partly or fully encased in the jaw bone, so don't actually offer too much support for the cheeks... there are muscles in your cheeks that have a much greater influence over tone and support. You are absolutely correct in saying that wisdom teeth or third molars are redundant teeth, and are a throwback to our prehistoric ancestors. Human jaws have evolved to be too small to accommodate these teeth, and that's why they often get removed. However, I wouldn't be confident in advising you that removal of these teeth will resolve your problem. If it is of concern to you, you shouldn't be embarrassed to mention this to your dentist; his/her job is to listen to and address your concerns, no matter what the reasons.