

The Danger of Silent Reflux

A Potentially Deadly Condition that is

Preventable, Treatable and Curable... If You're Aware of It



World-renowned cardiac surgeon, talk show host of The Dr. Oz Show, author and scientist Dr. Oz has brought a condition that plagues more than 50 million Americans to prime time. That condition is Silent Reflux, a form of acid reflux that doesn't cause heartburn or indigestion which is why most people don't realize that they have it. However, this condition is a precursor to deadly esophageal cancer which has become an epidemic in recent years.

According to Denton Combs, a Family Nurse Practitioner and founder of Denton Combs Center for Excellence in Care, "Silent Reflux isn't painful initially because it hasn't damaged the throat tissues significantly. However, it does cause other symptoms such as hoarseness, frequent throat clearing, chronic ear problems, sinus troubles and oral thrush." He shares, "Unfortunately, this problem is frequently misdiagnosed because people generally seek treatment for the wrong condition. If they go to the doctor because they have a sore throat or an ear or sinus infection, they end up treating that issue which was the symptom, and not the underlying cause which in many cases is acid reflux."

Denton has treated thousands of patients in the Sioux Falls' area over the past 13 years. A board certified and licensed Family Nurse Practitioner that focuses on allergy and chronic ear nose and throat problems, the dangers of Silent Reflux are nothing new to him. The danger in not treating this condition is that it can lead to significant vocal cord damage or even esophageal cancer.



"I take the time to educate and motivate every patient about the disease process and treatment options. We have incredible success because we work with our patients to understand their problem and come to terms with their treatment. Our patients range from children with ear infections to adults who suffer from chronic sinus infections because Silent Reflux can affect anyone at any age."

~Denton Combs, CNP;
Denton Combs Center for Excellence in Care

Denton notes, "If we can determine what the cause of acid reflux is; whether that's stress, allergy or dietary management, we can potentially eliminate the issue or manage it. After several months patients typically start to feel better." Treatment doesn't offer a quick fix however. He cautions, "It usually takes six months to two years to heal and it's something that needs to be monitored but it can certainly prevent cancer from occurring."

The Denton Combs Center for Excellence in Care is located just south of 57th and Western Avenue at 5124 S Western Avenue, Suite 4. For further information or to schedule an appointment, call 605.274.3898. Look us up on the Web at allergysiouxfalls.com.

Typically referrals aren't necessary but it's always best to check with your insurance provider before making an appointment.



DENTON COMBS
CENTER FOR
EXCELLENCE
IN CARE

5124 S Western Ave.
Suite 4 • Sioux Falls
605-274-3898
fax: 605-274-3899
www.allergysiouxfalls.com