An interview with actor Nick Shen, Singapore

Nick Shen is a well-known actor, singer and entertainer from Singapore who rose to fame when he won Star Search Singapore, a TV talent show, in 1999. In addition to having acted in more than 20 drama series during his career, the 35-year-old has a deeply rooted passion for Chinese opera, an actor, singer and entertainer.

During a dental visit to Singapore's Specialist Dental Group, Dental Tribune Asia Pacific had the opportunity to speak with Nick about the importance of aesthetic teeth and the portrayal of dentists in movies.

Have you ever considered undergoing cosmetic dental treatment in the US?

I have not considered traveling so far afield for my cosmetic dental treatment. Considering the distance, time off work needed, and the fact dentists here are also able to offer high quality dental work, I’ve decided to have my dental treatment done in Singapore. In fact, many patients from the region travel to Singapore for complex dental treatment.

Cosmetic dental procedures are booming in Singapore, are you aware of the recent developments and techniques?

In movies, dentists are often portrayed as being anti-social or psychopaths. Could you imagine playing a dentist yourself?

Sure, I would love to play a dentist in a movie. That would be a positive role model especially when it comes to a healthy lifestyle. For example, I was lucky, as a Singapore artist, to be able to endorse healthier meal choices and health supplements such as Avalon Ginseng for my fans. In addition, I also worked as ambassador for the Anti-smoking Campaign of the Health Promotion Board in Singapore.

Many dental patients in the UK are longing for the so-called Hollywood Smile. Have you noticed similar trends here in Singapore or elsewhere in Asia?

Indeed, the trend is spreading rapidly in Singapore, as well as in other regions in Asia, such as Japan, China and Korea. I’ve noticed that in recent years a greater number of dentists are beginning to offer cosmetic dentistry solutions in response to increasing interest from people here.

Laminating your teeth since you won Star Search Singapore?

Definitely! A great smile is extremely important for me as an actor and thus I do not mind making regular trips to the dentist. I always make a point of seeing a dentist twice a year to ensure that all my teeth and gums are in top condition.

How important are aesthetic teeth for an actor nowadays?

In the entertainment industry, always looking your best is a necessity. Being camera ready with a great smile places an important role in presenting an actor in his best light.

With regard to your appearance (including good teeth), do you consider yourself a role model?

I do consider myself to be a positive role model especially when it comes to a healthy lifestyle. For example, I was lucky, as a Singapore artist, to be able to endorse healthier meal choices and health supplements such as Avalon Ginseng for my fans. In addition, I also worked as ambassador for the Anti-smoking Campaign of the Health Promotion Board in Singapore.

Have you ever been involved in your dental treatment?

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