## **Green Health Care Spotlight**

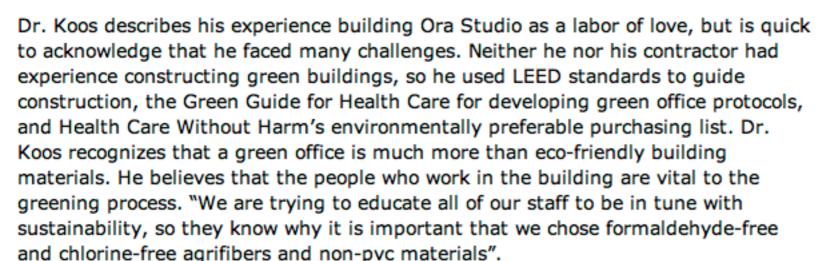
## Dr. Steven Koos MD, DDS: Green Dentistry Pioneer

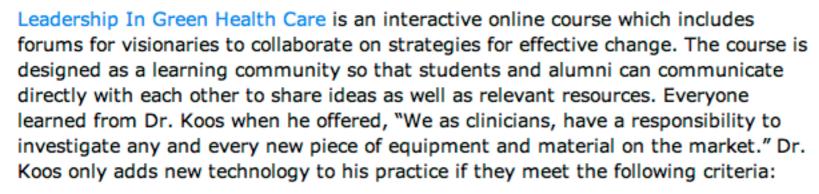
By Morola Adjibodou



"When people hear green office they think tree-hugger, hippie, granola—no one thinks chic, modern, state-of -the-art," jokes Steven Koos MD, DDS, a 2008 graduate of the Leadership In Green Health Care course. Dr. Koos and his partners are the founders of Ora Oral Surgery & Implant Studio, the first green dental surgery clinic in the U.S., located in the heart of Chicago. Through extensive research, trial and experimentation, Dr. Koos

retrofitted a former tannery built in 1919 into an elegant space that is often mistaken for a bar or restaurant. It was important for him to show people that composite wood and EcoResin can look as luxurious and inviting as conventional materials.





- Is this better for the patient? (i.e. non-toxic, less invasive, more preventative, free of harm, etc.)
- Is this more efficient in carrying out treatment? (i.e less costly to operate, fewer resources used, more energy efficient)
- Does this improve treatment outcomes? (i.e. shorter treatment, increased chance of successful outcome, less reliance on invasive outcomes, less dependence on pharmaceutical therapy)
- Is there evidence-based research behind it?
- · Is this better for the environment?

The Leadership course emphasizes that sustainability is not only applicable to large medical institutions, but is crucial for smaller practices like Ora Studio. Dr. Koos exemplifies that with relevant resources, health care professionals can provide high quality, cost-effective, and sustainable medical care. Dr. Koos is a true leader; he is a member of Practice Greenhealth, EcoDentistry Association, and a partner of the Teleosis Institute. We are proud to spotlight his pioneering work.

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