Ralph Howell is a graduate with a degree in chemistry from the College of William and Mary and an honor graduate from the Medical College of Virginia School of Dentistry. Dr. Howell's leadership roles in dentistry include being a past president of the Tidewater Dental Association, the Virginia Dental Association, and past chairman of the 16th District Caucus of the American Dental Association. Ralph is a former member of the ADA Council on Communications, the ADA State Public Affairs Oversight Committee, and the ADA Council on Dental Practice. Currently he serves on the Group Practice Task Force and as a Delegate to the American Dental Association.

Dr. Howell owns a comprehensive general dental practice with two locations in Suffolk, Virginia, was a founding member of, and is the Past Chairman of Atlantic Dental Care, PLC. Atlantic Dental Care is the largest practice in Virginia with 85 locations and 150 dentists that covers the southeast region of Virginia. The unique practice model of ADC combines the character and compassion of a private practice with the effectiveness and efficiencies of a large corporation.

Ralph's dental honors include membership in Omicron Kappa Upsilon, and Fellowship in the Pierre Fauchard Academy, the American College of Dentistry, and the International College of Dentistry. Dr. Howell is also a Master in the Academy of General Dentistry and a Fellow in the International Congress of Oral Implantologists.

Dr. Howell currently serves on the Board of the Colonial Virginia Council of the Boy Scouts of America, the Obici Healthcare Foundation, and is Immediate Past Chairman of the Virginia Health Care Foundation.

Ralph and his wife Tammy reside in Suffolk and have two daughters, Lauren and Dani. Lauren is the mother of the Howell's two grandchildren, Gavin and Riley. Dani is a recent graduate of the Medical College of Virginia School of Dentistry. Following graduation, she joined the family practice marking three generations of Howell's to serve the Suffolk community.