

INFORMATION CONCERNING CROWNS AND BRIDGES

PREPARATION

If the crown or bridge preparation was started today, the gums may be sore. Warm salt water rinses will help. Advil (ibuprofen) may also be helpful. These symptoms last only a few days.

A *temporary* has been placed to keep the tooth comfortable while the final crown or bridge is being fabricated. The temporary also maintains the position of your tooth in its arch, so that the final crown or bridge will fit properly. For this reason, it is important that your temporary is not dislodged from your tooth. We purposely use a weak cement, so that the temporary may be removed at the proper time. Please avoid sticky foods (chewing gum, candy) or hard foods (nuts, nachos, ice) as they may dislodge or crack the temporary. When flossing around the temporary, let go of the floss and pull it through the teeth. If a temporary becomes dislodged, save it and call for recementation the *next* business day. It is *not* an emergency situation.

CEMENTATION

If your final crown or bridge was cemented today, sensitivity to hot and cold may be experienced. This usually goes away without further treatment in 2-3 weeks.

The final crown or bridge was seated to fit your bite. If you discover a “high spot” or interference while chewing, please arrange an appointment for a possible adjustment.

Crowns that contain porcelain, a hard glass-like structure, are very durable. However, porcelain can possibly fracture. In this rare event, please call for an evaluation.

With this crown or bridge, you have made a long-term investment in your oral health. It is *extremely important* that you practice excellent oral hygiene. It is especially important to clean the area where the crown meets the tooth, usually just below the gum line. It is also important to clean *between* and *under* bridges. Failure to maintain excellent oral hygiene may seriously shorten the useful life of your crown or bridge. **It is extremely important to maintain your regular exam and cleaning appointments.**

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