

## **CROWN & BRIDGE POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS**

- ❖ Numbness of your lip, tongue or palate may persist for several hours. Do not chew gum, eat, or drink hot liquids until the anesthetic has worn off to prevent injury from accidentally biting or burning oneself.
- ❖ Soreness may occur at the tooth, the surrounding gum, if this occurs, rinse with warm salt water; dissolving ½ teaspoon of salt in an 8 oz. glass of warm water. If there is soreness at the injection sites or the jaw joint, apply moist heat to the affected area and take an analgesic/anti-inflammatory, such as ibuprofen or similar product (if medically able to do so).
- ❖ A temporary restoration made out of acrylic has been placed on your tooth. Avoid sticky or crunchy foods to avoid loosening or fracturing this restoration.
- ❖ If the bite feels "high" on the temporary restoration, please call the office to have it adjusted. Failure to do so can result in a toothache or fracture of the temporary.
- ❖ Brush your temporary restoration daily. When flossing, slide the floss out from between the teeth instead of lifting it back out to avoid loosening the temporary.
- ❖ If your temporary restoration loosens, call the office to have it recemented. If you're unable to come in, you can try to apply a little Vaseline or denture adhesive or a crown repair kit material (such as Dentatemp), inside the crown as a measure to help hold it in place in the interim. Dentatemp can be found at your local CVS, Walgreens, and Wal-Mart in the dental section of the store.
- ❖ The purpose for keeping the temporary crown in place is to protect the natural tooth, decrease sensitivity, and stabilize the position of your teeth. If the temporary crown is removed even for a short period of time the tooth can shift causing the permanent crown to not fit properly. Please make sure the temporary crown stays in place.
- ❖ Make an appointment between 2 and 6 weeks from now to receive your permanent restoration.
- ❖ When the final restoration has been placed, brush and floss accordingly. Do not chew on ice cubes or other hard objects or continue deleterious habits, such as biting on straws, pens, etc. Use sensitive toothpaste with fluoride if thermal sensitivity occurs. Also, if the bite feels unusual please call to have it checked.



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- ❖ On occasion, damage to the pulp of the tooth may occur following any restorative procedure due to a variety of reasons. If this occurs, further treatment, such as root canal therapy, may be necessary.
- ❖ If you have any questions, please feel free to call the office. Thank you for trusting us with your restorative dental care and we look forward to serving you or anyone you refer to us in the future with the same courtesy and respect.