

## TEMPORARY CROWNS

Congratulations! You have just completed your first crown visit. You currently have a temporary crown made of an acrylic/plastic dental material, which has been cemented to your tooth temporarily. This temporary crown does not represent the shape, shade or size of the permanent crown that we have selected. You may experience cold sensitivity until your permanent crown is placed; this is very common. Please follow the instructions below to limit or avoid sensitivity and/or inconveniences.

- Continue routine oral hygiene practices as this will reduce discomfort and maintain healthy gum tissue.
- Rinse with warm salt water to relieve gum tissue discomfort.
- If needed, an over the counter anti-inflammatory, such as Advil, will reduce discomfort.
- When flossing around your temporary crown, be sure to thread the floss and gently slide it out towards the cheek. Do not force floss between your natural tooth and the temporary crown, as it will pop off.
- Do not use a Water Pik around the temporary crown, as it will jeopardize the stability of the crown.
- Avoid cold foods or beverages if sensitivity occurs.
- Avoid hard foods (such as peanuts, ice, popcorn, etc.), as this will jeopardize the stability of the temporary crown.
- Avoid sticky or chewy foods (such as caramel or gum), as this will pull the temporary crown off.

If the temporary crown comes off, don't be alarmed. Although you don't need to be alarmed, it is very important to carefully place the temporary crown back on and call our office as soon as possible. We will schedule you to come in for us to re-cement the temporary crown. If you are out of town or otherwise unable to schedule an immediate appointment, do not panic. You may experience increased sensitivity, which is normal when a tooth is unprotected. Try to replace the temporary crown by following the steps below:

1. Place the crown over the natural tooth, making sure it fits properly and check the way it feels when you gently bite.
2. Once the crown fits properly, remove the crown and line the inside of the crown with a small amount of denture cream or Vaseline using the end of a toothpick.
3. Place the crown on the tooth and bite gently to make sure it is over your natural tooth properly.
4. Finally, gently wipe the excess away with a cotton swab or tissue.

### PLEASE NOTE.....

It is very important that the temporary crown remain on the natural tooth at all times. Not only is the temporary crown protecting the prepared tooth, but it is providing the necessary spacing between the adjacent and opposing teeth as well. If the temporary crown is off the tooth for more than a day, the prepared tooth may naturally move and jeopardize the permanent crown from fitting. If this happens, a new crown may need to be made. This will result in fabricating a second crown as well as a second crown fee.

In addition, it is imperative for the permanent crown to be inserted within a four to six week period from the preparation appointment. If the permanent crown is not placed within this time frame, the prepared tooth may not accommodate the permanent crown. If this happens, a new crown may need to be made.