

CROWN AND BRIDGES

The treatment of dental conditions requiring crowns and/or bridges includes certain risks and possible unsuccessful results, with even the possibility of failure. Even though care and diligence is exercised in the treatment of conditions requiring crowns and bridgework, there are no promises or guarantees of anticipated results or the longevity of the treatment. The risks include, but not limited to the following:

REDUCTION OF THE TOOTH STRUCTURE

In order to replace decayed or otherwise traumatized teeth, it is necessary to modify the existing tooth or teeth so that crowns (caps) and/or bridges may be placed upon them. Tooth preparation will be done as conservatively as practical. In preparation of teeth, anesthetics are usually needed.

SENSITIVITY OF TEETH

Often, after the preparation of teeth or the reception of either crowns or bridges, the teeth may exhibit sensitivity. It may be mild to severe. This sensitivity may last only for a short period of time or may last for much longer periods. If it is persistent, notify us in as much as this sensitivity may be from some other source.

CROWNED OR BRIDGE ABUTMENT TEETH MAY REQUIRE ROOT CANAL TREATMENT

Teeth, after being crowned or bridged, may develop a condition known as pulpitis or pulpal degeneration. The tooth or teeth may have been traumatized from an accident, deep decay, or other causes. It is often necessary to do root canal treatments in these teeth. If teeth remain too sensitive for long periods of time following crowning, root canal treatment may be necessary. Infrequently, the tooth (teeth) may abscess or otherwise not heal which may require root canal treatment, root surgery, or possibly extraction.

BREAKAGE

Crowns and bridges may possibly chip or break. Many factors could contribute to this situation such as chewing excessively hard materials, changes in biting forces, traumatic blows to the mouth, etc. Unobservable cracks may develop in crowns from these causes but the crowns/bridges may not actually break until chewing soft foods or possibly for no apparent reason.

UNCOMFORTABLE OR STRANGE FEELING

This may occur because of the differences between natural teeth and the artificial replacements. Most patients usually become accustomed to this feeling in time. In limited situations, muscle soreness or tenderness of the jaw joints (TMJ) may persist for indeterminate periods of time following placement of the prosthesis.

AESTHETICS OR APPEARANCE

Patients will be given the opportunity to observe the appearance of crowns or bridges in place prior to final cementation.

LONGEVITY OF CROWNS AND BRIDGES

There are many variables that determine "how long" crowns and bridges can be expected to last. Among these are some of the factors mentioned in preceding paragraphs. Additionally, general health, good oral hygiene, regular dental checkups, diet, etc. can affect longevity. Because of this, no guarantees can be made or assumed to be made.



It is a patient's responsibility to seek attention from the dentist should any undue or unexpected problems occur. The patient must diligently follow any and all instructions, including the scheduling and attending all appointments.