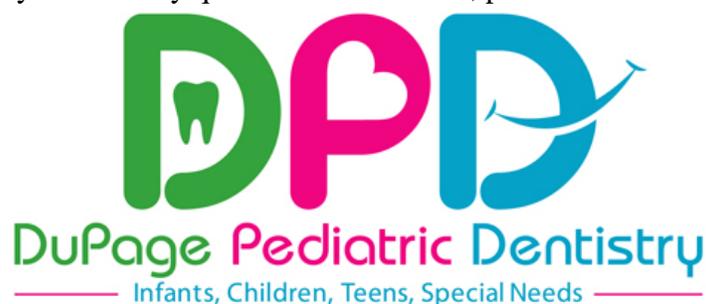


STAINLESS STEEL CROWN POST OP CARE

Your child has had one or more teeth restored with stainless steel crowns.

- 1) Your child has had local anesthetic for their dental procedure:
 - a) If the procedure was on the lower jaw... the tongue, teeth, lip and surrounding tissue may be numb or asleep.
 - b) If the procedure was in the upper jaw... the teeth, lip and surrounding tissues may be numb or asleep.
 - 2) It is important that you pay close attention to your child for two hours or until the numbness subsides. Children often will scratch, chew, suck, or play with the numb area. These actions can cause mild irritations or be severe enough to cause swelling and abrasions to the tissue.
 - 3) The cement that holds the crown on the tooth requires approximately 12 hours to achieve its final set. Therefore, only soft foods should be chewed with any newly restored teeth today. Regular diet may be resumed tomorrow.
 - 4) Something cold is recommended right after the appointment such as popsicles, ice cream, milk shake, etc. to help heal the gum tissue from the trauma received during preparation of the crown.
 - 5) Stainless steel crowns may be dislodged or pulled off if extremely hard or sticky foods are chewed with them. Hard or sticky candy and all types of chewing gums should be avoided.
 - 6) It is not unusual for the gum tissue around the newly restored tooth to bleed a little, and be slightly irritated or inflamed for several days. This can be eased using saltwater rinses several times a day while the irritation persists (1 teaspoon of salt in 8 ounces of warm water).
 - 7) The area should be brushed gently today, gradually increasing to normal toothbrush pressure in a few days.
 - 8) If the crown is on a baby tooth, it will get loose and come out when the adult tooth is ready to erupt.
 - 9) Should a crown become loose or dislodged it should be saved and you should contact the dental clinic to have it re-cemented.
 - 10) For discomfort use children's Tylenol, Advil or Motrin as directed for the age of the child.
- Occasionally your child's tooth might require root canal treatment, or nerve treatment, which involves removing part or all of the nerve from a tooth. The success of a baby tooth pulpotomy/pulpectomy depends on the severity of the inflammation in the nerve of the tooth, and the body's reaction to the inflammation and the treatment. A Tooth may abscess with or without pain; therefore it is recommended that regular check-ups be made in order to keep the teeth under observation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the office.



Anterior Crown Post Op Care

The crowns are made of white composite filling material. The tooth surface is prepared to specific dimensions and then the crown is carefully fitted over and bonded onto the existing tooth. These crowns help 'seal' the underlying tooth from acid attacks and reduce the chance of developing further decay on the tooth.

To correctly place the crown, work must be done just below the gum line; therefore, expect your child's gums to be sore for 2-3 days. Your child's gum tissue may bleed upon brushing for the next few days. To help with healing, keep the area clean by gently brushing 2-3 times a day and flossing every night.

Sticky and hard candies (i.e. Taffy, Jolly Ranchers, etc), while NEVER a good idea, are really a bad idea after having white fillings. These fillings can chip or break with this kind of candy.

White fillings on front teeth are vulnerable to fracture, please avoid biting into hard food and food that needs to be "pulled" (i.e. pizza crust). Please have your child refrain from hard foods he/she may bit into.

- Apples (They should be sliced)
- Carrots (They should be cut into strips)
- Corn on the cob (Cut the kernels off the cob)
- Ice- avoid always
- Caramel candy, taffy, Sugar Daddys, or Now-or-Laters

Also please make sure your child does not directly bite his top teeth with his bottom teeth.

We recommend limiting drinking or eating of dark colored beverages and foods as this may cause staining and discoloration of the resin material.

Occasionally your child's tooth might require root canal treatment, or nerve treatment, which involves removing part or all of the nerve from a tooth. The success of a baby tooth pulpotomy (removal of infected nerve tissue only) or pulpectomy (removal of the complete nerve) depends on the severity of the inflammation in the nerve of the tooth, and the body's reaction to the inflammation and the treatment. A Tooth may abscess with or without pain; therefore it is recommended that regular check-ups be made in order to keep the teeth under observation.

The success of these crowns depends on how much good tooth structure is available to place the crowns onto. Resin material is not as strong as the original tooth and great care must be taken for maintenance. If your child bumps their front teeth afterwards, there is a risk of the crown breaking or an abscess forming.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the office.

