

Informed Consent for Dental Treatment

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CROWNS - CAPS

BENEFITS:

- Make you look nicer (cosmetic)
- To repair a tooth which is badly broken down
- To prevent a tooth from fracturing
- To restore a tooth which has broken
- To eliminate a space where food is being trapped
- To hold a false tooth in place as part of a bridge
- To make a solid structure to attach a partial denture
- To splint loose teeth together to strengthen them
- The tooth no longer can be filled

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:

- Porcelain portion of crown may fracture
- Crown may come off and need to be recemented
- Tooth may abscess and require further treatment (may not show up until later)

Future decay may require a filling or new crown

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE or POSTPONING:

- Tooth will probably fracture
- Tooth may need to be extracted
- May need a root canal in addition to the crown
- May need bridgework or denture

ALTERNATIVES:

- Extraction
- Temporary crown
- Steel crown

Initials Date

BRIDGEWORK

BENEFITS:

- Make you look nicer
- To replace missing teeth
- Missing teeth are *not* removable
- Some of same advantages as *Crowns*
- Can improve chewing efficiency

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:

Same as Crowns

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE or POSTPONING:

- Teeth will drift and lean over
- May lose back teeth due to shifting
- Periodontal problems (Gum disease)
- Can reduce chewing efficiency

ALTERNATIVES:

- Partials
- Temporary Partials
- No teeth in the spaces

Initials Date

PARTIALS (REMOVABLE BRIDGEWORK)

BENEFITS:

Cost

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:

- Can wear on Teeth
- Can rock or stress teeth - may loosen own natural teeth
- Metal clasps are sometimes visible
- Decay can occur under clasps
- Usually some amount of movement from the partial

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE or POSTPONING:

Same as under *Bridgework*

ALTERNATIVES:

- Bridgework
- Temporary partial
- Keep spaces without teeth placement

Initials Date

ROOT CANAL

BENEFITS:

- Eliminate decay
- Relieve pain
- Save the Tooth

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:

- Undiagnosable root fracture means failure and extraction
- Undiagnosable auxilliary canal means failure and extraction

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE or POSTPONING:

Extraction of tooth

ALTERNATIVES:

- Extraction
- Bridgework

Initials Date

FILLINGS

BENEFITS:

- Eliminate decay
- Relieve pain
- Fill in a hole or space in a tooth
- Cover eroded area
- Protect a sensitive surface

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:

- Tooth may abscess from the filling
- May fracture the tooth
- Tooth will be sensitive to temperature change
- Toxicity from silver fillings is alleged by some
- Filling may fall out

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE or POSTPONING:

- May lose the tooth
- Tooth may fracture
- Decay will get worse
- May result in need for a root canal

ALTERNATIVES:

- Temporary filling

Initials Date

GUM SURGERY (Gingivectomy)

BENEFITS:

- Eliminate infection
- Reduce food pockets around teeth
- Eliminate foul odors
- Reduce overgrown tissue
- Can eliminate tartar effectively

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:

- May need to be repeated after a time
- Some after-pain
- Might lose teeth if they don't respond to treatment

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE or POSTPONING:

- Will lose teeth sooner
- May not get rid of infection

ALTERNATIVES:

- More frequent appointments for scaling

Initials Date

Signature _____ Date _____