

## CROWNS & BRIDGES

Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I understand dentistry is not an exact science and there is no guarantee of results. When undergoing dental treatment with crown and/or bridgework, there are certain risks and the potential for unsuccessful results including the possibility of failure of the procedure. Crown and/or bridgework will require multiple appointments. There is no guarantee of the lifetime of the crown and bridgework.

Crown and/or bridgework have been recommended to me after careful examination and diagnosis.

Crown restorations cover and protect teeth which have been weakened by decay, other restorations or root canal therapy. Crowns can also be used for cosmetic purposes.

Bridgework replaces missing teeth. The bridge covers the gap (bridges) of the area between the nature teeth and where an extraction has taken place. Bridges can also help to maintain the position of teeth thereby retaining the contours of the face and aid in chewing ability.

Alternatives to crown placement includes:

- Restoration by other methods such as onlay, inlay, veneer, or filling
- Extraction with possible replacement with an implant, denture or fixed bridge
- No treatment which may result in pain, swelling, infection, or loss of teeth

Alternatives to bridgework include:

- Dental Implants;
- Partial dentures which are removable and supported by adjoining teeth
- No treatment which may result in shifting of the adjacent teeth, chewing, gum or joint pain

Treatment with crown and bridgework may involve the following risks:

- Injury to a nerve as a result of anesthesia administered during the procedure resulting in numbness, burning or tingling of the chin, lip, cheek, gum on the side on this the procedure in being performed as well as loss of taste in the case of the tongue. These nerve injuries can last for several weeks, months or in rare instances, be permanent
- Mild to severe sensitivity of the teeth
- Root canal treatment to adjacent teeth may be necessary due to trauma, decay or extensive preparation for the crown and bridge
- Breaking or chipping of the crown and bridge
- Uncomfortable feeling in the mouth which may lead to muscle soreness or temporomandibular joint pain
- A change in speech and/or appearance

Once crown and/or bridgework starts, it is imperative the treatment be completed and additional appointments may be required. Care must be taken during the time a temporary crown is placed to ensure it stays on until the final crown is delivered. Failure to keep the cementation appointment can lead to the ultimate failure of the crown and bridgework to fit properly.

Cosmetic results as a result of crown and bridgework are subjective thus the outcome may not completely meet my expectations.

By signing below, I am acknowledging I have read or had this document read to me in its entirety, have had the chance to ask questions and have them answered to my satisfaction so that I feel I understand the information as it is presented. I understand the potential risks, complications and side effects. I have elected to proceed with this dental treatment after having considered both the known and unknown risks, complications, side effects and alternative treatment methods.

Patient (or Legal Guardian) Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Patient Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Doctor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

SAMPLE