



## **INLAYS/ONLAYS**

We have just recommended that your tooth be restored with an inlay/onlay. What are they? And why are we doing this?

Inlay/Onlays are laboratory-fabricated restorations that are constructed of processed composite-resin, metal, or porcelain and are cemented or bonded to the tooth. They can be considered a more conservative way of restoring a tooth that would otherwise require a crown. Inlays replace tooth structure within the cusps of a tooth whereas onlays include at least one of the cusps of a tooth.

We prescribe these restorations when a tooth cannot be restored with a restoration placed directly, yet the tooth is not sufficiently compromised to warrant a crown. Inlays and onlays provide strength to the tooth because, unlike conventional fillings, they are cemented or bonded to the tooth, thereby strengthening the existing tooth structure.

**INSURANCE COMPANIES DO NOT ALWAYS PROVIDE BENEFITS FOR INLAYS/ONLAYS. KEEP IN MIND THAT THEY ARE NOT DENTISTS AND LOOK FOR THE LEAST COSTLY ALTERNATIVE, NOT NECESSARILY THE BEST TREATMENT FOR THE PATIENT. MANY TIMES, YOU WILL ONLY BE REIMBURSED AT THE CORRESPONDING RATE OF A CONVENTIONAL FILLING. WE STRIVE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH LONG-TERM RESULTS, NOT QUICK FIXES.**

The inlays and onlays treatment sequence entails a minimum of 2 office visits: the first is to take impressions and prepare the tooth, the second for cementation/delivery.

- Occasionally, there may be some sensitivity after placement of these restorations. If, after an adequate adjustment period, you find that sensitivity has not subsided, we may recommend a crown for that tooth.