



QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR TEMPORARY

A temporary is a filling or crown that is placed until the permanent restoration is fabricated and ready to cement. It is normal for the gum around your tooth to be a little sore when the anesthesia wears off. This will dissipate within a few days. Do your best to chew on the opposite side of your mouth until your next appointment. To minimize your risk of dislodging your temporary(s) avoid chewing sticky foods and flossing around the prepared tooth. It is not uncommon to have the following reactions or problems with the temporary.

- **It feels rough** – Please call us if it is making the tongue sensitive.
- **It came off** – This is probably the most common problem. A temporary is supposed to come off easily so it can be replaced by the permanent restoration. It is important for the temporary to remain in place until the permanent is delivered. If it becomes dislodged please call us so we can cement it again. You can try to affix the temporary with denture adhesive or toothpaste until you can get in to see us.
- **It feels high** – Come in so we can adjust it. You can bruise a tooth if it is high.
- **It is not how I want the permanent to look** – Do not worry, the permanent will look much better.
- **It is sensitive** – The temporary will not always fit as well as the permanent will, so there may be some sensitivity to hot and cold as well as chewing. If it is too uncomfortable, please call.

The temporary is very important. It protects the exposed dentin so it is not sensitive, prevents food from gathering in the preparation, and prevents the prepared tooth from shifting and moving making seating of the permanent more difficult. Use your toothbrush to clean the temporary as you normally do your other teeth. You will not be able to floss or use an electric toothbrush around your temporary as you may dislodge it.

If you have any questions concerning the temporary, please feel free to call. Remember that the temporary is only in place for a few weeks and it will all be worth it when you get your beautiful permanent restoration.