

## **CROWN AND BRIDGE POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS**

**TEMPORARY CROWNS:** Your temporary crowns are not the color, shape, or size of your completed restoration(s). Temporaries are placed with a soft cement. Try to avoid chewing on them and do not chew sticky foods on them. Should a temporary crown become dislodged or fall off, put a small dab of toothpaste inside the temporary crown and place it back on the tooth. Do not try to force it on. Call the office for an appointment to have it re-cemented. (Don't forget to bring the crown!)

**TOOTH SENSITIVITY:** It is not unusual for your tooth to be sensitive to temperature, air, and sweets. It should not be unduly sensitive to biting. If the tooth is sensitive to biting or very sore, please call the office for an appointment to adjust the bite and check the tooth. Any tooth that requires a crown may become a candidate for a root canal.

Preparing the tooth for a crown may irritate it and cause a slight ache for a day or two. Ibuprofen products (Advil, Nuprin, etc.), Tylenol, or Aspirin should help. If the tooth aches for more than 48 hours after treatment and the above pain medications do not help, please call the office for an appointment to check the tooth. Please carefully brush the tooth, and floss by pulling the floss out of the side so as not to dislodge the temporary.

**GUM SENSITIVITY:** The gum around the tooth may be sore for a day or two. Warm salt water will help the gum feel better.

**COMPLETED RESTORATIONS:** Teeth with finished restorations may be sensitive to temperature for a short period of time. The tooth should feel better quickly after the temperature source is removed. Do not chew anything sticky for the first 48 hours to allow the cement to cure. If the bite does not feel perfectly normal after the anesthetic wears off, please call the office for a short adjustment appointment. Begin flossing the restoration(s) tomorrow. Your restoration fits intimately with the tooth, but not as perfectly as Nature's own tooth structure, therefore it will require conscientious home care.

**CALL** if you have any questions. *We want you to be as comfortable as possible.* Dr. Kaes is available by pager through our office number, 303-504-4000.