# Crown and Bridge Information and Consent Form

A crown or bridge is a full-coverage restoration that covers the entire crown of a tooth with either a metal, porcelain fused to metal, or all porcelain covering. This requires the reduction of 1-2 mm of tooth structure all the way around the tooth. Then, a small cord soaked in a hemostatic agent (that prevents bleeding) is placed under the gums to allow temporary retraction of the gums to take a final impression. A temporary crown or bridge is made and intended to last for about 1 month while the final crown or bridge is being fabricated in the laboratory. Upon completion of fabrication, the final restoration is either cemented or bonded to the tooth with a definitive cement. The intent of a crown or bridge is to restore function (replace missing teeth with a bridge), prevent catastrophic fracture of a compromised tooth, relieve pain, or for esthetics. I understand that this is the intent of the procedure, however, because attractiveness is subjective, it cannot be guaranteed. Alternatives to this procedure were discussed with me and include:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, hereby authorize Dr. Anne Etzkorn, DDS to perform upon me \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

I understand that my doctor may discover conditions requiring different treatment from that which was planned. I may need additional treatment that might require referral to a specialist and/or additional cost.

Certain risks and complications include, but are not limited to the following:

-post-operative bleeding, swelling and discomfort

-loosening or loss of dental fillings which may require replacement

-unintentional injury to adjacent teeth

-discovery of fractures or cavities under restorations not detected on exam or x-rays that may require additional treatment

-changing of the occlusion (bite) and jaw relationships which may cause temporomandibular joint disorder

-recession of the gums (changing gum heights)

-irreversible loss of tooth structure

-root sensitivity (which may require additional treatments)

-internal root resorption due to trauma to the teeth

-fractures in the teeth

-chronic gum irritation which may require non-metal crown or crown lengthening surgery

I understand that if I have grinding habit, a night guard must be worn after treatment on a daily basis to prevent fracture and chipping. If I do not follow the instructions given to me on the care of my teeth, there are no guarantees that they will last. I have provided the most complete, up-to-date and accurate medical history, including current medications and known allergies.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_

Patient’s (or Legal Guardian’s) Signature Date Witness Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dr. Anne Etzkorn, DDS Date

Temporary Crowns and Bridges

# What to Expect After Impressions:

Your gum tissues may be sore for several days after impressions. This is due to the retraction cord that was placed during the procedure or the lasering process. Use warm saltwater rinsing to help alleviate the discomfort. You may also take over the counter Ibuprofen or Tylenol as directed to reduce the temporary soreness.

# Dos and Don’ts For The Care of Your Temporaries:

1. Brush as usual and floss the way that we demonstrated to you.
2. Avoid excessively hard foods like ice and hard pretzels, chewing gum, and sticky foods like caramel or taffy. These may crack or loosen your temporary.

# If Your Temporary Comes Loose:

1. Call us immediately so that we can re-cement your temporary. If the temporary is left off for even a short period of time, the adjacent teeth may move causing the final restoration not to fit.
2. If you cannot reach us within several hours, then purchase Fixodent denture adhesive from the pharmacy. Place a small amount into the temporary crown or bridge, seat it over the tooth/teeth and bite together until your teeth meet normally. This will hold the temporary in place until we can see you at the office.
3. Note: If cases need to be remade do to leaving temporaries off or not coming in for the final crown for extended periods of time, then costs incurred during the process will be passed on to the patient.

# Things To Know About Temporary Restorations:

1. The color of your temporary restoration will probably not match the color of your natural teeth and may stain if you are a smoker or heavy coffee/tea drinker
2. Your teeth may be slightly sensitive to temperature, as the temporary restoration will not be sealed as well as the permanent one.
3. The shape and contour of the temporary will differ from the permanent restoration
4. The permanent restoration will feel smoother and more natural.

If you have any further questions, call our office at (443)-244-9222.

If you call after-hours, our voicemail will direct you to an emergency line to get in touch with Dr. Etzkorn directly.

Final Crown and Bridge

Post-Operative Instructions

1. **Do not eat any sticky or hard foods on that side of your mouth** for the first hour while the cement is hardening. After that, you may eat like normal.
2. **Brush and floss as instructed by your dentist.** You can still get cavities underneath of a crown without proper home care. If you are having trouble with food impaction, ask your dentist for additional recommendations for keeping the area clean.
3. **The average lifespan of a crown or bridge is between 15-20 years** with proper home care. Poor oral hygiene will reduce the lifespan significantly.
4. **The porcelain outer facing of your crown or bridge is a harder and more brittle material than your natural enamel and may feel strange at first.**  If you are a known grinder, it is important to wear a night guard every night to protect your new crown from fracture and prevent it from wearing down your opposing teeth. It will also not stand up to using your teeth as tools (opening bags with your teeth, etc). As long as you use your teeth for what they were designed for (chewing food), you should have no problems.
5. **If your bite feels off or there is any excess cement around the crown,** call your dentist right away. This will need to be fixed.
6. **If you notice any extreme cold, hot, or biting pressure sensitivity, swelling or chronic gum irritation,** this will need to be evaluated by your dentist – this is not normal and may indicate that your tooth needs further treatment.

# If you have any further questions, call our office at (443)-244-9222. If you call after-hours, our voicemail will direct you to an emergency line to get in touch with Dr. Etzkorn directly.