



## **Cementation Postoperative Instructions**

### ***Tooth Sensitivity***

Occasionally, following the cementation or bonding process, there may be some transient (passing) sensitivity that can last from several days to several months. This is not unusual and may relate, in part, to the cementation/bonding procedure or the amount of tooth that was removed during the preparation for the restoration.

Sensitivity may also be related to the occlusion (bite). If your teeth have been anesthetized for the cementation/bonding procedure, it may be difficult for you to tell if your bite feels normal following the cementation/bonding of a new restoration. This occasionally results in a bite that is not correct. When the anesthetic wears off, you might notice that the bite does not feel correct. It will feel high and the new restoration will meet the opposing teeth too soon. This can cause the nerve in the tooth to become irritated and sensitive to hot or cold stimulation. Adjusting the occlusion will usually rectify this problem.

Occasionally, this sensitivity does not go away and may, in fact, get worse. This is not usually related to the cementation/bonding procedure but is a result of the extensive amount of original tooth destruction you experienced from decay. Although the tooth may appear to be fine while the provisional (temporary) restoration is in place, the nerve may in reality be slowly dying. In this situation, the restored tooth may eventually experience nerve death. The tooth will then need endodontic treatment.

### ***Care of Your New Restoration***

After the cementation or bonding, it is advisable to **not** use the tooth to chew food until normal sensation returns to the area (if the area was anesthetized). Cements set only partially while you are in the office and require at least 24 hours to achieve better physical properties. So do not stress the cemented or bonded teeth for 24 hours (i.e., no gum chewing, taffy, biting on nuts or bagels, etc.).

It is very important to your continuing oral health to brush and floss the teeth normally after this procedure. Please return to us for your normal preventive recare appointments at intervals of months. Problems that may develop around the restorations (or any other teeth, for that matter) can then be found at an early stage and repaired easily.

We also recommend fluoride treatments at your dental cleanings. Regular topical application of fluoride has been shown to reduce the incidence of some types of dental problems, such as recurrent decay.

***Please call us at 561-625-1991 if you have any further questions!!***

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