

Composite Post Operative Instructions

You have just had a new filling. This is what you may feel:

*Hot Sensitivity that may last a few days

*Cold sensitivity that may last up to 8 weeks, but gradually decreasing in pain during that time period.

*Sensitivity to chewing that may last up to 8 weeks, but gradually decreasing in pain during that time period.

*After the numbing wears off, you may feel you are not biting correctly. Please call so your bite can be

adjusted. You may not feel this for some time if the bite is only slightly high. Remember, when you are

numb it is hard for you to judge if you are biting your teeth together correctly. White fillings are hard right away so you can chew on them immediately, but they may be sensitive.

Any filling no matter what the size or depth may result in the need of a root canal. The symptoms you look for include:

*Hot sensitivity that lasts longer than a few weeks

*Hot sensitivity that begins after the tooth has been asymptomatic or problem free for a period of time.

*Spontaneous pain that occurs anytime during the day or night.

*Swelling, either in the mouth or on the face.

*Cold sensitivity that lingers on for many minutes. Sharp instantaneous reaction to cold is probably not a root canal symptom. This is the same for children except a pulpotomy (baby root canal) is performed.

TOOTH BREAKAGE

Anytime a filling is placed there is less natural tooth. With less natural tooth the tooth is weaker. The filling

material is not as strong as natural tooth therefore is in a weaker state. If your tooth breaks a new filling may be put in if not too large, however if it is very large a crown will be recommended to protect the remaining tooth. Endodontic Treatment (root canal therapy); Following the completion of a root canal you may have soreness, especially when biting. This is normal; however, if there is extreme discomfort or swelling, please call the office. After the completion of treatment, it is required that you have a permanent restoration placed. In most cases a crown with a post is required. Please do not bite down on your tooth until this is completed or you may break the tooth and then require crown lengthening or at worst case

an extraction. Due to leakage of the temporary filling you should ideally restore the tooth as soon as possible. Bacteria from your mouth can easily re-infect your root canal.

Should you feel you are having any problems please do not hesitate to give the office a call.