

# Chapel Hill Dental Group

## Informed Consent Form for Dental Treatment

### **FILLINGS:**

**BENEFITS:** Eliminate decay, relieve pain, fill in a hole or a space in a tooth, cover eroded areas and/or protect a sensitive tooth.

**POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:** Tooth may abscess from deep fillings, filling may fracture tooth, tooth may be sensitive to temperature change and/or filling may fall out.

**CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE OR POSTPONING:** May lose the tooth, tooth may fracture, decay will get larger/deeper, pain will get worse and/or may result in need a root canal.

**ALTERNATIVES:** Temporary filling, extraction.

### **EXTRACTIONS:**

**BENEFITS:** Last resort for non-salvageable tooth, eliminate pain, removes teeth that are out of position and/or eliminate infections.

**POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:** Fractured particles may remain irritating to nerves, may cause temporary or permanent numbness, part or all of the tooth may be lodged in sinus requiring more surgery, bad infections may take a long time to clear up, jaw may be stiff and difficult to open for a time, if jaw bone is very weak it may fracture.

**CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE OR POSTPONING:** Spread of infection, swelling, pain.

**ALTERNATIVES:** None.

### **X-RAYS:**

**BENEFITS:** More complete diagnosis, allows hidden problems to be found and/or provider can make a determination of treatment. (X-Rays taken by qualified personnel.)

**POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:** Exposure to X-Ray radiation (extremely minimal), X-Ray pictures/images remain the property of Kennedy Dental Group.

**CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE OR POSTPONING:** Cannot perform dental services.

**ALTERNATIVES:** None.

### **CLEANING/SCALING:**

**BENEFITS:** Teeth look nicer, clean mouth, eliminate odors, prevent gum disease. (Some portions may be performed by auxiliary personnel.)

**POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:** Sensitive teeth, feeling of space between teeth, filling may be loosened (especially normal if the filling is about to fall out), sensitive or temporary bleeding gums.

**CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE OR POSTPONING:** Stains on teeth, offensive odors, gum disease and/or will lose teeth sooner.

**ALTERNATIVES:** None.

### **VENEERS:**

**BENEFITS:** Aesthetics - they look nicer, cover crooked or discolored teeth, close spaces and gaps.

**POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:** Edges can stain after a time and need to be freshened up (additional fee), breakage may occur resulting in need for a remake, difficult to remove.

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE OR POSTPONING: None (other than appearance).

ALTERNATIVES: Crowns, composite fillings.

**LOCAL ANESTHETICS:**

BENEFITS: Avoid pain during treatment and procedures.

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS: Prolonged numbness may extend beyond normal, nerve damage, bruising (hematoma), in rare instances possible consequences may include all those applicable to General Anesthesia including allergic reactions up to and including death.

CONSEQUENCE OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE OR POSTPONING: Mild to severe pain during and after treatment.

ALTERNATIVES: Willingness to accept pain during and after treatment.

**CROWNS:**

BENEFITS: Repair/restore a tooth that is badly broken, prevent a tooth from fracturing, eliminate a space where food is being trapped, hold a false tooth in place as part of a bridge, make a solid structure to attach a partial denture, splint loose teeth together to strengthen them, restore a tooth that can no longer be filled, teeth look nicer (cosmetic).

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS: Porcelain portion of the crown may fracture, crown may come off and need to be re-cemented, tooth may abscess and require further treatment (may not show up until later), future decay may require a filling or a new crown.

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE OR POSTONING: Tooth will probably fracture, tooth may need to be extracted, tooth may need a root canal in addition to the crown, may need bridge work or dentures.

ALTERNATIVES: Extraction, temporary crown.

**BRIDGE WORK:**

BENEFITS: Replaces missing teeth, missing teeth are not removable, can improve chewing efficiency, teeth look nicer, some of the same advantages as crowns.

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS: Same as crowns.

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE OR POSTPONING: Teeth will drift and lean over, may lose back teeth due to shifting, periodontal problems (gum disease), can reduce chewing efficiency.

ALTERNATIVES: Partial, temporary partial, no teeth in spaces, implant.

**PARTIAL (REMOVABLE BRIDGE WORK):**

BENEFITS: Cost.

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS: Can wear on teeth, can rock or stress teeth, may loosen natural teeth, metal clasps are sometimes visible, decay can occur under clasps, usually some movement from the partial.

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORKDONE OR POSTPONING: Same as bridge work.

ALTERNATIVES: Bridge work, temporary partial, keep spaces without teeth placement.

**ROOT CANAL:**

BENEFITS: Eliminate infection, relieve pain, save tooth.

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS: Undiagnosable root fracture means failure and extraction. Undiagnosable auxiliary canal means failure and extraction.

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE OR POSTPONING: Extraction of tooth.

ALTERNATIVES: Extraction. Bridge work, Implant.

**GUM SURGERY:**

**BENEFITS:** Eliminate infection, reduce food pockets around teeth, eliminate foul odors, reduce overgrown tissue, can eliminate tartar effectively.

**POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:** May be repeated after a time, same after pain, might lose teeth if they do not respond to treatment.

**CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE OR POSTPONING:** Will lose teeth sooner, may not get rid of infection.

**ALTERNATIVES:** More frequent appointments for scaling.

PATIENT NAME (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

GUARDIAN NAME (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

I (WE) HAVE READ THE ABOVE STATEMENTS AND RECEIVED A COPY OF THEM (IF I REQUESTED IN WRITING TO DO SO), AND RECOGNIZE THEIR IMPORTANCE IN HELPING ME (US) MAKE MY (OUR) DECISIONS. I (WE) ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT WHERE DECAY HAS OCCURRED, OR A TOOTH HAS FRACTURED OR ABSCESED THESE SAME FORCES ARE STILL WORKING ON THE TOOTH EVEN AFTER IT HAS BEEN RESTORED, THEREFORE, DECAY OR FRACTURE CAN STILL OCCUR AS THE RESTORED TOOTH IS NO BETTER THAN WHAT NATURE HAS GIVEN ME IN THE FIRST PLACE.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_