

Informed Consent

Tooth Colored “Fillings”

I understand that I have decayed, fractured, or damaged teeth that need to be restored with “fillings”. I understand that “fillings” are restorations for the teeth that are made from various materials. I know that a substantial portion of a natural tooth must be undamaged or undecayed to support a “filling”.

Tooth colored “fillings” may be made from resins, plastic-like materials, or mixtures of materials. They may appear to match the tooth exactly, or there may be variations in shades of the “filling”. Tooth colored materials can fade, darken or stain over time. Dark areas at margins may also appear. Newer materials make these changes less likely.

As with all procedures, there are potential problems associated with tooth colored restorations that may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Tooth sensitivity to heat, cold, or air.
- During a “filling” preparation, the effects of decay and the removal of the decay may cause a nerve in the middle of the tooth to be exposed or damaged. This may require the tooth to have root canal therapy and a subsequent crown, or full coverage restoration. In severe cases, tooth extraction may be required.
- Fractures may occur necessitating replacement or substitution of another material or full coverage (crown).
- Post operative pain, swelling, or bruising may occur.
- Damage to adjacent teeth or fillings may occur.
- Damage to nerves in the mouth during tooth preparation resulting in temporary or permanent numbness may occur.
- “Fillings” may darken or show dark margins over time requiring their replacement.

I understand the recommended treatment, the fee(s) involved, the risks of such treatment, any alternatives and risks of these alternatives, including the consequences of doing nothing. I have had all my questions answered and have not been offered any guarantees.

Patient signature _____ Date _____

Witness _____