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YOUR PROVISIONAL CROWN

A provisional or temporary is a crown that is placed on your tooth until the final restoration is made and ready to be placed. After the first visit it is normal for the gum around your tooth to be a little sore when the anesthesia wears off. This should disappear in a day or two. Do your best to chew on the opposite side until your next appointment. Chewing sticky foods can sometimes dislodge the provisional crown.

It is not uncommon to have some of the following reactions or problems with the provisional:

The provisional crown feels rough.

(Please call us if it is making your tongue or cheek sore.)

The provisional crown came off.

(This is probably the most common problem. The temporary is made to come off easily and some foods may dislodge it. Stay away from sticky foods or gum. It is important for the temporary to be there, so if it comes out, call us so we can recement it or you can put it back in with a denture adhesive until you come in to see us.)

The provisional crown feels high.

(Come in so we can adjust it. You can bruise a tooth if it is high.)

It's not how I want the permanent to look.

(Don't worry, the permanent will look much better.)

The tooth is sensitive.

(The temporary will not always fit as well as the final crown will, so there may be some sensitivity to hot and cold as well as chewing. If it is too uncomfortable, please call.)

The provisional crown is very important. It protects the exposed tooth so it is not sensitive. It keeps food from gathering in the preparation. It also prevents the prepared tooth from shifting which would make the seating of the final restoration more difficult. Use your toothbrush to clean the temporary as you normally do your other teeth. You will not be able to floss around your temporary as you may dislodge it.

Most temporaries are designed to last only a month or two. Generally, the final restoration will be completed in several weeks and it will have been worth the wait when you get your beautiful final restoration.

If you have any questions concerning the temporary, please call us.