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Health centered dentistry—guided by nature.

CARING FOR YOUR PROVISIONAL RESTORATION

A provisional restoration, or “temporary” is a crown that is placed until the permanent is made and is ready to be placed. It is normal for the gum around your tooth to be a little sore when the anesthesia wears off. This will disappear by tomorrow. Do your best to chew on the opposite side until your next appointment. It is not uncommon to have the following reactions or problems with the provisional:

IT FEELS ROUGH.

Please call us if it is making your tongue sensitive.

IT CAME OFF.

This is probably the most common problem. It is supposed to come off easily for when we need to place the permanent crown, and some foods will help in this way. Stay away from sticky foods or gum. It is important for the restoration to be there, so call us immediately so we can recement it. You can put it back on in the interim with a denture adhesive or toothpaste until you can come back in.

IT FEELS HIGH.

Please come in so we can adjust it. You can bruise a tooth if it is left too high.

IT IS SENSITIVE.

The provisional should be comfortable, but it will not always fit as well as the permanent will. There may be some sensitivity to hot and cold, as well as chewing, but if it is too uncomfortable please call.

IT IS NOT HOW I WANT THE PERMANENT TO LOOK.

Don't worry, the permanent crown is being created by a technician, and will look much better than the temporary.

The provisional is very important. It protects the exposed dentin so the tooth is not sensitive, prevents food from gathering in the preparation, and prevents the prepared tooth from shifting and moving, which can make the seating of the permanent more difficult. Use your toothbrush to clean the provisional as you normally do your other teeth, however you will not be able to floss around your provisional, as you may dislodge it.

If you have any questions about your provisional, please do not hesitate to call. Remember, this is for a short period of time, and you will soon get your beautiful permanent restoration.