



Boutique Private General and Cosmetic Dentistry.

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About your Fillings

Your dentist has recommended a composite restoration on your tooth to restore it from either decay and or fracture or improve the appearance of the tooth. On average a white filling can last 7-10 year but this can vary significantly depending on the clinical circumstances. While every effort is made to ensure the best possible outcome there is unfortunately always a possibility of adverse events that may include but are not limited to those listed below.

1. Sensitivity of teeth

Often after preparation of teeth for the placement of any restoration, the prepared teeth may exhibit sensitivity. The sensitivity can be mild or severe. The sensitivity can last only for a short period of time or last for much longer periods of time. If such sensitivity is persistent or lasts for an extended period of time, you should notify the dentist because this can be a sign of more serious problems.

2. Risk of fracture

Inherent in the placement or replacement of any restoration, is the possibility of the creation of small fracture lines in the tooth structure. Sometimes these fractures are not apparent at the time of removal of the tooth structure and/or the previous fillings and placement or replacement, but they can appear at a later time.

3. Necessity for root canal therapy

When fillings are placed or replaced, the preparation of the teeth often requires the removal of tooth structures adequate to ensure that the diseased or otherwise compromised tooth structure provides sound tooth structure for placement of the restoration. At times, this may lead to exposure or trauma to underlying pulp tissue. Should the pulp not heal, which often is exhibited by extreme sensitivity or possible abscess, root canal treatment or extraction may be required.

4. Injury to the nerves

There is a possibility of injury to the nerves of the lips, jaws, teeth, tongue or other oral or facial tissues from any dental treatment, particularly those involving the administration of local anaesthetics. The resulting numbness that can occur is usually temporary, but in rare instances it could be permanent.

5. Aesthetics or appearance

When a composite filling is placed, effort will be made to closely approximate the appearance of natural tooth colour. However, because many factors affect the shades of teeth, it may not be possible to exactly match the tooth colouration. Also, the shade of the composite fillings can change over time because of a variety of factors including mouth fluids, foods, smoking, etc. The dentist has no control over these factors.

6. Breakage, dislodgement or bond failure

Because of extreme masticatory (chewing) pressures or other traumatic forces, it is possible for composite resin fillings or aesthetic restorations bonded with composite resins, to be dislodged or fractured. The resin-enamel bond can fail, resulting in leakage and recurrent decay. The dentist has no control over these factors.

Informed consent

I understand that it is my responsibility to notify this practice should any undue or unexpected problems occur or if I experience any problems relating to the treatment rendered or the services performed. I have been given the opportunity to ask any questions regarding the nature and purpose of composite fillings and have received answers to my satisfaction. I voluntarily accept any and all possible risks, including the risk of substantial harm, if any, that may be associated with any phase of this treatment in hopes of obtaining the desired outcome.