

## Stainless Steel Crowns

### Post Treatment Care

Please restrict your child's diet to liquids such as smoothies, soup, yogurt, or Jello for the first 3 hours. Your child should chew on the **opposite** side of the crown, if possible, for the first 24 hours.

The gum tissue surrounding your child's crown may be red, inflamed, bleed easily, and sore immediately after placement of the crown. This is normal at this time and may persist for 7- 10 days after crown placement. For the first 72 hours after crown placement, do not brush the crowned tooth with a tooth brush, but use a moistened wash cloth or gauze with tooth paste 2 times per day to clean the crown surfaces. All the other teeth are to be brushed with a toothbrush as normal. After the first 72 hours the crowned tooth and all the other teeth are to be brushed with a tooth brush and tooth paste 2 times per day as normal.

**DO NOT** let your child chew or eat sticky foods and candy such as gum, Air Heads, Jolly Ranchers, Laffy-Taffy, Starbursts, Skittles, fruit gummies and gummy worms, fruit roll-ups, or any other sticky candy. These can pull the crown off the tooth.

In the event that your child's crown does come off, save the crown, and call us for an appointment to have the crown re-cemented. Come in as soon as possible, because the longer you wait to put the cap back on, the more time-consuming the procedure will be, or additional procedures may even be necessary.

**Your child's lip, cheek and/or tongue will be numb (asleep) for about 2-3 hours. During that time, do not let your child bite, suck, scratch, or pick at these areas.** If your child bites his or her cheek, lip or tongue: once the initial bleeding has stopped, the area will likely turn whitish in color. Do not be alarmed – this is normal and not a sign of infection. Luckily, the tissues of the mouth heal very quickly. Apply an ice pack over the area during the first 3 days if there is swelling. Place the ice pack on the area for 15 minutes and remove it for 15 minutes. Repeat this process for 1 hour, 3 times a day. Give your child Tylenol or Motrin over the counter as directed per the manufacturer's label for pain. Call us if the wound is not healing in 5-7 days or if it seems infected. Signs of infection include continued swelling, drainage, and/or redness. If the area won't stop bleeding and/or if the injury is significant, call the office (832) 900-9978.

