

## **Stainless Steel Crowns (SSC)**

Your child has just had a tooth or teeth restored with a stainless steel crown. These are dental restorations placed over baby teeth that have extensive damage or decay. The crowns are cemented to the remaining tooth structure. It looks like a silver hat over your child's tooth. This procedure should return the tooth to its normal form and function and will play a major role in maintaining your child's good oral health.

### **What to expect after a Stainless Steel Crown is placed**

- Your child will be numb for approximately 3 hours after leaving our office. They should have no pain during this time. Many children dislike the numb feeling and may complain about it. Be sure not to give your child any food that has been chewed. We want to avoid him/her biting their cheek or lip while numb.
- Some children will experience some mild sensitivity around the new crown at the gum line once the anesthetic wears off. Tissue could appear to be bright pink or blanched (white). Normal color pigmentation should return within a few days. This is common due to the placement of the crown adjacent to the gum tissue. Give your child Tylenol or ibuprofen before the numbness wears off and as needed as directed.
- Your child's bite may feel different to them. If it does, be patient. The crown will settle in and your child's bite should feel normal within a couple of days. If it does not, please call us.
- There may be some mild bleeding when your child brushes his/her teeth today. **DO NOT** avoid brushing the crown. It is important to maintain excellent oral hygiene to allow the gums to heal.

### **Care for Stainless Steel Crowns**

- Watch your child's diet so that sticky foods like gum, fruit-snacks, taffy and other sticky foods are rarely eaten – IF EVER! These will loosen the crown and it may come out.
- Call us immediately if the crown becomes loose or comes out. If the crown does come out, **SAVE IT** and bring it to your child's appointment. If it is not replaced soon, more of the retaining structure of the tooth could be lost.
- Be sure to keep the gum tissue around the tooth/crown clean by brushing near the gums.
- Keep your regularly scheduled appointments with us because crowns, as well as the rest of your child's teeth, need periodic evaluation.

We have done our best to provide you with the finest quality oral restorations available today. However, only your continuing excellent oral hygiene and professional recalls can ensure optimum service and longevity.

Should you have any concerns about the stainless steel crown, please do not hesitate to call our office at (815) 725-5991