

BRIDGEWORK

BENEFITS:

- Improve appearance
- Replace missing teeth
- replaced teeth are permanent (cemented)
- Some of same advantages as Crowns
- Can improve chewing efficiency

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:

Same as Crowns

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK

DONE OR POSTPONING:

- Teeth will drift and lean over
- May lose back teeth due to shifting
- Periodontal problems (Gum disease)
- Can reduce chewing efficiency

ALTERNATIVES:

Partials

No teeth in the spaces

implant supported bridge

CLEANING - SCALING

BENEFITS:

- Look nicer
- Clean mouth
- Eliminate odors
- Prevent gum disease

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:

- Sensitive teeth
- Feeling of spaces between teeth
- Filing may be loosened (normal if filling was ready to fall put)
- Sensitive gums

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK

DONE OR POSTPONING:

- Stains on teeth
- Odors
- Gum disease
- May lose teeth sooner

ALTERNATIVES:

None

CROWNS - CAPS

BENEFITS:

- To improve appearance
- To repair a tooth that is badly broken down
- To prevent a tooth from fracturing
- To restore a tooth which has broken
- To eliminate a space where food is being trapped
- To hold a false tooth in place as part of a bridge
- To make a solid structure to attach a partial denture
- To repair a tooth that no longer can be filled

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:

- Porcelain portion of crown may fracture
- Crown may come off and require recementation
- Tooth may abscess and require further treatment (may not show up until later)

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK

DONE OR POSTPONING:

- Tooth may fracture
- Tooth may need to be extracted
- Tooth may need a root canal in addition to the crown

ALTERNATIVES:

Extraction

EXTRACTIONS

BENEFITS:

- Last resort for non-salvageable tooth
- Eliminate pain
- Remove teeth that are out of position
- Eliminate infection

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:

- Fractured tooth particles may remain
- Irritation to nerves may cause temporary or permanent numbness
- Part or all of tooth may be lodged in sinus, requiring more surgery
- Serious infection may require extended healing period
- Jaw may be stiff and difficult to open for a time after treatment
- Fragile or thin jawbone may fracture

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK

DONE OR POSTPONING:

- Spread of infection
- Swelling
- Pain

ALTERNATIVES:

None

FILLINGS

BENEFITS:

- Eliminate decay
- Relieve pain
- Fill in hole or space in tooth
- Cover eroded area

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:

- Tooth may abscess from the filling
- May fracture the tooth
- Tooth may be sensitive to temperature changes
- Toxicity from silver fillings is alleged by some
- Filling may fall out

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK

DONE OR POSTPONING:

- May lose the tooth
- Tooth may fracture
- Decay can get larger
- Pain can occur
- May result in the need for a root canal

ALTERNATIVES:

Extraction

GUM SURGERY (GINGIVECTOMY)

BENEFITS:

- Eliminate infection
- Reduce food pockets around teeth
- Eliminate foul odors
- Reduce overgrown tissue
- Can eliminate tartar effectively

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:

- May need to be repeated after a time
- Some discomfort after treatment
- May lose teeth if they don't respond to treatment

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK

DONE OR POSTPONING:

- May lose teeth sooner
- May not get rid of infection

ALTERNATIVES:

More frequent appointment for scaling

LOCAL ANESTHETICS

BENEFITS:

- Avoid pain during treatments and procedures

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:

- Gum sores
- Prolonged numbness may extend beyond normal
- Nerve damage
- Bruising
- In rare instances, possible consequences may include all those applicable to General Anesthesia, including allergic reactions up to and including death

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK

DONE OR POSTPONING:

- Mild to severe pain during and after treatment

ALTERNATIVES:

Willingness to accept pain during treatment

PARTIALS (REMOVABLE BRIDGEWORK)

BENEFITS:

Cost

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:

- Can rock or stress teeth - may loosen own natural teeth
- Metal clasps are sometimes visible
- Decay can occur under clasps
- Usually some amount of movement from the partials

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK

DONE OR POSTPONING:

Same as under bridgework

ALTERNATIVES:

Bridgework
Maintain spaces without teeth replacement
implant supported partial denture?

ROOT CANAL

BENEFITS:

- Eliminates infection
- Relieves pain
- Save the tooth

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:

- Perforation of root or broken files complicating completion
- Undiagnosable root fracture means failure and extraction
- Undiagnosable auxiliary canal means failure and extraction

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK

DONE OR POSTPONING:

Extraction of tooth

ALTERNATIVES:

Extraction
Bridgework

X-RAYS

BENEFITS:

- More complete diagnosis
- Can find hidden problems
- Can make a determination of treatment
- X-Rays taken by qualified personnel

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:

Exposure to X-Ray radiation

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK

DONE OR POSTPONING:

Can not perform dental service

ALTERNATIVES:

None

Date _____

Patient or Parent Signature _____