



## **CARE OF THE MOUTH AFTER TOOTH RESTORATION WITH A CROWN**

- 1) Your child has had local anesthetic for the completed dental procedure:
  - a) If the procedure was on the lower jaw... the tongue, teeth, lip and surrounding tissue will be numb or asleep.
  - b) If the procedure was in the upper jaw... the teeth, lip and surrounding tissues will be numb or asleep.
- 2) It is important that you pay close attention to your child for two hours or until the numbness wears off. Children often will scratch, chew, suck, or play with the numb area. These actions can cause mild irritations or be severe enough to cause swelling and cuts to the tissue.
- 3) It is not unusual for the gum tissue around the newly restored tooth to bleed a little, and be slightly irritated or inflamed for several days. This can be eased using saltwater rinses a couple times a day, while the irritation persists; mix one(1) teaspoon of salt into eight (8) ounces of warm water.
- 4) The area should be brushed gently on day of crown placement. Resume to normal tooth brushing within two (2) days.
- 5) For discomfort, use children's Tylenol or Motrin (Ibuprofen) as directed for the appropriate age and weight of the child.
- 6) The dental cement which holds the crown onto the tooth requires approximately one hour to achieve its final set. Regular diet may be resumed within an hour.
- 7) Crowns may be dislodged or pulled off if extremely hard or sticky foods are chewed with them. Hard or sticky candy and all types of chewing gums should be avoided.
- 8) Should a crown become dislodged it should be saved for re-cementation. Please contact the dental office **"ASAP"** to have it re-cemented. This is to avoid further damage to remaining tooth structure; recurrent decay; infection; or loss of the tooth.
- 9) If the crown is on a baby tooth, it will get loose and come out when the adult tooth is ready to erupt.
- 10) If you have any questions or concerns, please call the dental office during or business hours.

