

PREHN DENTAL OFFICE

NEW FILLINGS

Today we placed new fillings and used either white (resin/composite) or silver (amalgam) on select teeth. Thermal sensitivity is to be expected with new fillings depending on the size and proximity to the nerve. With white fillings, you can begin chewing or eating normally after you leave the office. With silver fillings, we strongly suggest you wait at least one hour to give the silver material time to “harden” and your teeth a chance to adapt to the new surface. Normal brushing and flossing can begin after one hour. If, after the anesthetic wears off, you feel the bite is “high”, please contact the office for a needed adjustment.

NOTES ON LARGE FILLINGS PLACED

If we placed extensive or large fillings on some of your teeth, please note: Sometimes when the decay was deep, the nerve tissue may either be exposed or nearly exposed. Medication has been placed which may help protect and heal the nerve. Large silver fillings are usually sensitive for a few days while we’re finding out that white, or resin, fillings can sometimes be sensitive for a few months. The sensitivity to cold and hot will only last for a few seconds. Biting pressure of hard foods such as pretzels will also cause short-term sensitivity. Some pain relievers may be necessary such as Advil, Tylenol or aspirin to relieve the sensitivity.

Please contact our office if any of the following occurs:

- The tooth remains or becomes extremely sensitive to hot or cold foods. This means when you drink cold or hot liquids, the pain lasts for several minutes or longer.
- The tooth becomes sensitive to normal biting pressure (this could mean a bite adjustment is necessary from the filling being “high” or a fracture may be present).
- Any swelling is noticed on the soft tissue around the tooth.

Lastly, there is the possibility when performing deep fillings that root canal therapy may be indicated and some day a crown procedure may be necessary to fully protect and restore the tooth. If you have any questions, please call the office or send an e-mail.

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