

IMMEDIATE DENTURE CONSENT FORM

WHAT TO EXPECT: Going from natural teeth to a denture is a big adjustment for any patient. The patient's ability to chew food decreases about 90%. Taste of food and often speech may be altered at first. In general, an upper denture is easier to adjust to than a lower denture. The amount of stability of a denture depends on several things and not all people adapt to complete dentures as well as others. We will do everything in our power to help you adjust to your new dentures, however, the patient must realize that dentures are a satisfactory replacement for having no teeth at all but they very rarely function as well as natural teeth.

APPOINTMENTS: Your treatment will be an immediate denture: this means that your denture will be placed immediately after having your teeth extracted. The advantage of doing this is that you will never have to be without teeth. For 3-5 weeks after the delivery of your dentures, you may require follow up appointments to adjust the denture as your mouth heals and the dentures settle in.

It is normal for the denture to loosen as your mouth heals. The ridges that held your teeth in before will shrink and change shape. Most of your changes will occur in the first two months and then the ridge will begin to stabilize. At the end of one month, if the denture is too loose to function properly, a temporary healing reline will be needed to refit the denture. Complete healing and reshaping of the ridge can take anywhere from 6 months to 1 year. At this point, a permanent reline or rebase will be needed to refit the dentures. This is an additional fee. If a reline or rebase does not provide enough retention for patient satisfaction then dental implants are the next option for stability. There are additional fees for dental implants and attaching them to the denture.

Risks and Complications of Immediate Dentures:

Failure of immediate complete dentures: There are many variables which may contribute to this possibility such as: (1) gum tissues which cannot bear the pressures placed upon them resulting in excessive tenderness and sore spots, especially during healing following extraction and denture placement; (2) jaw ridges which may not provide adequate support and/or retention as shrinkage occurs following extractions; (3) musculature in the tongue, floor of the mouth, cheeks, etc., which may not adapt to and be able to accommodate the new artificial appliances; (4) excessive gagging reflexes as the mouth adapts to the new dentures; (5) excessive saliva or excessive dryness of mouth; (6) general psychological and/or physical problems interfering with success. (6) Breakage: Due to the types of materials which are necessary in the construction of these appliances, breakage may occur even though the materials used were not defective.

Loose dentures: Immediate complete dentures normally become less secure over the initial months as healing progresses and the ridge changes. Dentures themselves do not change unless subjected to extreme heat or dryness. After several months once healing is complete, the dentures will generally be quite loose and a reline or even rebase (replacement of all tissue colored material supporting the teeth) will become necessary. During the healing process some chairside relines may be performed, but eventually a laboratory processed reline or rebase will be necessary. It will be necessary to charge a fee for relining or rebasing dentures and I understand that the fee for immediate dentures does not cover this reline or rebase fee. Some individuals never adjust to dentures and require dental implants to be placed for stability.

Allergies to denture materials: Infrequently, the oral tissues may exhibit allergic symptoms to the materials used in construction of either partial dentures or full dentures.

Uncomfortable or strange feeling: This may occur because of the differences between natural teeth and the artificial dentures. Most patients usually become accustomed to this feeling in time. However, some patients have great difficulty adapting to complete dentures.

It is the patient's responsibility to seek attention when problems occur and do not lessen in a reasonable amount of time; also, to be examined regularly to evaluate the tissue response to the dentures during healing, condition of the gums, and the patient's oral health.

CONSENT: I certify that I have read or had read to me the contents of this form. I have read or had read to me and will follow any patient instructions related to this procedure. I understand the potential risks, complications and side effects involved with any dental treatment or procedure and have decided to proceed with this procedure after considering the possibility of both known and unknown risks, complications, side effects and alternatives to the procedure. I declare that I have had the opportunity to ask questions and all of my questions have been answered to my satisfaction.

Patient (Guardian) signature

Date

Witness signature

Date