

Common Reasons for Sensitivity on A New Restoration

Discomfort Usually Is A Result Of One Of The Following Reasons

- ⊗ **Initially your gums will be very sore from the tooth preparation process.** It's likely the tissue around your tooth was shaped during tooth preparation. Crowns for instance are needed when there is a lot of missing tooth structure either from decay or breakage at or near the level of the gum tissues. The dentist will remove this weakened tooth structure near your gums, and you will likely experience gum tissue tenderness. The tenderness is similar to gum tissue soreness that results after contact with hot food. This will heal in a few days.
- ⊗ **Gum tissue soreness from a dental impressions.** (If you had an impression or mold of your tooth for a crown). Dental retraction cord is usually packed between the tooth and gum collar to keep the area of the tooth near the gum tissues dry for accurate dental impressions. This is important for proper impression technique since saliva and blood will interfere with the accuracy of the impression material.
- ⊗ Also note it's normal to have post operative **tooth sensitively from a dental drill or shaping procedure.** Remember, a non root canal treated tooth is alive. With deeper decay or the need to remove deep fillings near the nerve, it makes sense that there will be more post operative sensitivity. Once your final restoration has been placed this sensitivity may continue for a few days or even weeks. Remember as long as the sensitivity is continually getting better this is a normal healing process. You should not experience a night wakening type of pain.
- ⊗ During the removal of deep decay, the nerve of the tooth may have been traumatized. **If you have continuous throbbing pain and/or awakening at night from the pain, call our office ASAP!**
- ⊗ You notice a **sharp part of the tooth.** Your best option is to purchase orthodontic wax at your local drug store. Just take a small piece of wax and cover the area.
- ⊗ It's normal to have **dental injection soreness.** Though it is not very common, occasionally patients may experience difficulty opening after a dental procedure. If you have difficulty opening, please call our office as soon as you get a chance.
- ⊗ **Your new temporary tooth could be too high when you bite, chew or grind.** See the following.

If Your Bite Feels High

First, check with your fingernail to make sure that no excess temporary cement or dental acrylic is on your upper or lower teeth. Please check both **upper and lower**. If you find cement, don't be shy scratch it off.

Once the anesthetic wears off you may notice that your bite is a little different. The chewing surface of your final restoration will be properly equilibrated and adjusted in your bite.

To test your bite, try the following test. Bite only on the teeth on the left side. The right side should not interfere. Then bite only on the right side. The left side should not interfere. Finally, bite on both sides at the same time. All posterior teeth should occlude with equal force. The new restoration should not hit first, hit and slide, or interfere with your bite.

When patients are numb, they can't always find the proper orientation of their jaw and bite in the wrong position. This gives your dentist a false marking and occasionally results in a temporary which is too high or interferes with your bite. Please return to the office after the anesthetic has completely worn off. It is less likely you will bite improperly when you're not numb! Please don't underestimate symptoms that could result from a high bite. This could be quite uncomfortable. Call for an appointment as soon as your sure your bite is too high.

If you feel that the previous section does not explain the reason for your pain, Please review the section #3 Tooth Ache.

If you have severe pain read: "Do I Need a Root Canal"

OUR PHILOSOPHY, OUR OFFICE REMAINS DEDICATED TO PROVIDING OPTIMAL CARE FOR EVERY PATIENT AND WORKING WITH YOU TO ACHIEVE THAT GOAL. WE PRIDE OURSELVES ON HELPING YOU IN ANY WAY AND IN CONTINUING TO PROVIDE THE QUALITY OF CARE TO WHICH YOU HAVE BECOME ACCUSTOMED.