



**Charles G. Liggett Jr, DDS**  
**Cole J. Johnson, DDS**

8309 Phoenix Ave.  
Fort Smith AR 72903  
479-646-0706 479-646-0502 (fax)

### **Crown and Bridge Consent**

Dental crowns are restorations that cover or cap an entire tooth/teeth, restoring them to their natural size, shape and color. A crown not only helps with appearance, but can strengthen a tooth as well. A fixed (non-removable) bridge is designed to replace teeth that have been lost. Missing teeth may need to be replaced for appearance, or to prevent or correct bite and gum tissue problems related to shifting or stressed teeth. Dental crowns and bridges are often made of porcelain and may or may not have an inner layer of metal, while some are made of different types of metal alone.

As with all procedure, there are certain potential complications+ associated with crowns and bridges. These include but are not limited to:

- \* The potential need for root canal therapy; the need for root canal therapy may become apparent during a crown preparation, or after a crown is made even several years later.
- \* Dark lines at the gum line may appear on crowns or fixed bridges lined with metal. This is the metal at edge of the crown. If the gum tissue recedes after placement, this metal may show. Sometimes this can be corrected, other times a new crown or bridge may be recommended.
- \* Food impaction may occur under a bridge-this may be an unavoidable condition. Meticulous home care is required. There are a variety of different types of floss and brushes that may help.
- \* Postoperative sensitivity especially to cold temperatures and/or chewing.
- \* If the tooth is being crowned to treat a fracture in the tooth, the fracture could continue despite the new crown being placed.

Crowns should usually be completed within one month. Failure to keep appointments (which is wearing a temporary crown too long) can lead to gum disease, tooth loss, or a need to redo the crown at additional cost.

I understand that since I may have to wear a temporary crown until the permanent crown is made, and if it comes off, I must be careful to ensure that it is kept on until the permanent crown is ready.

I understand that sometimes it is not possible to match the color of natural teeth exactly with artificial teeth.

I understand that any changes in fit, size, color or shape must be done before permanent cementation. After a crown is cemented permanently, NO changes can be made.

I understand that crowns and bridges must be kept clean with proper oral hygiene and professional teeth cleanings, otherwise decay may develop underneath or around the edges of the crown/bridge. Replacement of crown/bridge due to decay and poor home care will be the patient's responsibility. However, any breakage, cracks, and/or fractures in the crown/bridge caused by normal function, could be eligible for replacement or repair within the first year if the treating dentist determines a crown/bridge is defective.

*I have read and understand the consent form above.*

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(Patient Signature)

(Date)