

## Provisional Crown Consent

### What is a provisional crown and what are its benefits?

A provisional crown or “temporary crown” restores the form and function of a normal tooth when it’s pulpal or nerve status is in question as in a cracked tooth situation. The reasoning is to see how the tooth will respond to initial restorative therapy. If the tooth remains asymptomatic for 6 months, impressions will be taken and then a final crown will be made. If however, the tooth’s pulp becomes irreversibly inflamed, then a root canal will be needed before the final crown is placed. A referral to a specialist (endodontist) will be required. If the tooth is more seriously damaged such as a crack running down the root then the tooth will need to be extracted. The purpose of wearing the provisional is to determine “which way” the tooth is going to react. Our goal is to achieve the best clinical outcome by using the least invasive treatment and avoid having the patient spend money on a treatment that doesn’t last.

### What are their risks?

1. Since the provisional is made out of Bis-Acryl (plastic) it is not as durable as other final restorative materials. Therefore, it will wear more quickly or possibly fracture or come off. If that occurs we will need to repair or remake the provisional. This will be done at no additional charge during the 6 month period.
2. As implied above, sensitivity may result. This could be due to the provisional taking on greater biting forces. This is easily remedied by a simple adjustment to the biting surface. However, the sensitivity may be due to an inflamed pulp or nerve. This could indicate the need for a root canal or possible extraction.
3. If you do not return to our office at the 6 month reevaluation appointment, you run the risk of the provisional wearing down. As this happens the tooth or the opposing tooth may move thereby requiring more tooth structure removal. This could result in a pulpal exposure requiring a root canal. Therefore, it is important to see us promptly at 6 months.

### What are my alternatives?

As with any dental procedure you can choose not to proceed with care. Of course, that decision has its own set of benefits and risks. A patient can also elect to skip the provisional treatment and go straight to the final crown. However, should the tooth require a root canal after the final crown is seated a hole will be drilled through the crown to do the root canal. Afterwards the hole will have to be filled at an additional fee. If the tooth ends up being extracted there will be a fee for the extraction and there will be no refund for the crown.

**INFORMED CONSENT:** I can read and write English and have been given the opportunity to ask any questions regarding the nature and purpose of the proposed treatment and have received answers to my satisfaction. I do voluntarily assume any and all possible risks, including the risk of substantial harm, which may be associated with any phase of this treatment in hopes of obtaining the desired result. The fees for these services have been explained to me and I accept them as satisfactory. By signing this form, I am freely giving my consent to authorize the doctors and staff at Cross Timbers Dental in rendering any services they deem necessary or advisable to treat my dental conditions, including the administration and/or prescribing of any anesthetic agents and/or medications.

**Guarantees:** The practice of dentistry is not an exact science and no procedure is 100% successful. The doctors and/or staff at Cross Timbers Dental have made no guarantees of a successful outcome.

**Notifications:** If a patient develops a problem it is the patient’s responsibility to notify the doctors and/or staff of Cross Timbers Dental. Through this notification we will be able to act on the patient’s behalf. Attempts to correct a problem may occur at our office or a referral to another health care practitioner may be warranted.

Patient's name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of patient/legal guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_