

SEALANTS

What are sealants and their benefits?

By placing a resin material in the pits and fissures of back teeth it helps lower the chance of getting tooth decay (cavities) on those surfaces. This is helpful during the most vulnerable time in a person's life of getting cavities: the childhood to adolescent years. Of course home care and diet play a major role in decay prevention, sealants can help while a child is learning brushing, flossing and refining their eating habits. It should be noted that a sealant does not cover the entire tooth, it only protects the pits and fissures of a tooth, therefore other areas are still vulnerable to decay.

What are their risks?

1. Loosening or dislodging: Sealants are not permanent. Part or all of the sealant may come off. This is usually due to things beyond a dentist's or hygienist's control, like how hard a patient chews, how the teeth come together, chewing hard or sticky foods. We will replace a sealant at no charge if it comes off within two (2) years. After that, the replacement of the sealant will be at the regular fee.
2. Leakage or decay: Inadequate home care and diet can still overpower the protective forces of a sealant and the tooth can still become decay

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.

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 _____