

# Informed Consent for Dental Treatment

**X-RAYS BENEFITS:** More complete diagnosis. Can find hidden problems. Can make a determination of treatment. X-Rays are taken by qualified personnel. **POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:** Exposure to X-Ray radiation (minimal). X-Ray pictures remain the property of this office. **CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE or POSTPONING:** Can not perform dental services. **ALTERNATIVES:** None

**CLEANING – SCALING BENEFITS:** Look nicer. Clean mouth. Eliminate odors. Prevent odors. Prevents Gum Disease. Some portions may be performed by auxiliary personnel. **POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:** Sensitive teeth. Feeling of spaces between teeth. Filling may be loosened (Normal if filling was ready to fall out). Sensitive gums. **CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE or POSTPONING:** Stains on teeth. Odors. Gum disease. Will lose teeth sooner. **ALTERNATIVES:** None

**LOCAL ANESTHETICS BENEFITS:** Avoid pain during treatments and procedures. **POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:** Prolonged numbness may extend beyond normal. Nerve damage. Bruising (hematoma). In rare instances, possible consequences may include all those applicable General Anesthesia, including allergic reactions up to and including death. **CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE or POSTPONING:** Mild to severe pain during and after treatment. **ALTERNATIVES:** Willingness to accept pain during treatment.

**SEALANTS AND FLOURIDE BENEFITS:** Help prevent decay **CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE or POSTPONING:** None **ALTERNATIVES:** No treatment.

**FILLINGS BENEFITS:** Eliminate decay. Relieve pain. Fill in a hole or space in a tooth. Cover eroded area. Protect a sensitive surface. **POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:** Tooth may abscess from the filling. May fracture the tooth. Tooth will be sensitive to temperature change. Toxicity from silver fillings is alleged by some. Filling may fall out. **CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE or POSTPONING:** May loose the tooth. Tooth may fracture. Decay will get worse. May result in need for a root canal. **ALTERNATIVES:** Temporary filling.

**ROOT CANAL BENEFITS:** Eliminate decay. Relieve Pain. Save the Tooth. **POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:** Undiagnosable root fracture means failure and extraction. Undiagnosable auxiliary canal means failure and extraction. **CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE or POSTPONING:** Extraction of tooth **ALTERNATIVES:** Extraction. Bridgework.

**CROWNS - CAPS BENEFITS:** Make you look nicer (cosmetic). To repair a tooth which is badly broken down. To prevent a tooth from fracturing. To restore a tooth which has broken. To eliminate a space where food is being trapped. To hold a false tooth in place as part of a bridge. To make a solid structure to attach a partial denture. To splint loose teeth together to strengthen them. The tooth no longer can be filled. **POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:** Porcelain portion of crown may fracture. Crown may come off and need to be recommended. Tooth may abscess and require further treatment (may not show up until later). Future decay may require a filling or new crown. **CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE or POSTPONING:** Tooth will probably fracture. Tooth may need to be extracted. May need a root canal in addition to the crown. May need bridgework or denture. **ALTERNATIVES:** Extraction. Temporary crown. Steel crown.

**BRIDGEWORK BENEFITS:** Make you look nicer. To replace missing teeth. Missing teeth are *not* removable. Some of same advantages as *Crowns*. Can improve chewing efficiency. **POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:** Same as *Crowns*. **CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE or POSTPONING:** Teeth will drift and lean over. May loose back teeth due to shifting. Periodontal problems (Gum disease). Can reduce chewing efficiency. **ALTERNATIVES:** Partials. Temporary partials. No teeth in the spaces.

**EXTRACTIONS BENEFITS:** Last resort for non-salvageable tooth. Eliminate pain. Remove teeth that are out of position. Eliminate infection. **POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:** Fractured particles may remain. Irritation to nerves may cause temporary or permanent numbness. Part or all of tooth may be lodged in sinus, requiring more surgery. Bad infections may take long time to clear up. Jaw may be stiff and difficult to open for a time. If Jawbone is very weak it may fracture. **CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE or POSTPONING:** Spread of infection. Swelling. Pain. **ALTERNATIVES:** None.

**DENTURES OR PARTIALS BENEFITS:** Cost. **POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:** Can wear on Teeth. Can rock or stress teeth - may loosen own natural teeth. Metal clasps are sometimes visible. Decay can occur under clasps. Usually some amount of movement from the partial. **CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING WORK DONE or POSTPONING:** Same as under *Bridgework*. **ALTERNATIVES:** Implant. Bridgework. Temporary partial. Keep spaces without teeth placement.

I have read the above statements and understand the risks, benefits, and possible complications of dental treatments. I have been advised and understand my treatment options. I also understand that complications could change the treatment plan. I understand that dentistry is not an exact science and that, therefore, reputable practitioners cannot fully guarantee results. I acknowledge that no guarantee has been made by anyone regarding the dental treatment by which I have requested and authorized. I have had the opportunity to read this form and ask questions. My questions have been answered to my satisfaction. I agree and consent to the judgment of **Isabel Perez D.D.S. and Fernando Caballero D.D.S.**, and staff in performing my dental treatments.

**Signature:**

**Date:**