

GENERAL CONSENT FOR DENTAL TREATMENT

I understand the purpose of this general consent is to raise my awareness of risks that may be associated with routine dental care such as fillings, cleanings, x-rays and the prescribing of medications.

I understand my dentist reserves the right where appropriate (for example: for root canal therapy, extractions and other oral surgery, treatment of gum disease, placement or restoration of implants, crowns, bridges, dentures, oral and parenteral sedation) to provide me with a more specific informed consent form.

I understand that every dental patient has the right to informed consent. That means that as a patient or as a legal guardian for a patient I should understand what treatment is being proposed, what the possible complications and risks are, and what the alternatives are to the treatment. Of course, one alternative for me is to do nothing, although that carries with it its own risks.

I understand the risks for routine dental care may include but are not limited to: temporary soreness, temperature sensitivity, damage to the nerve of a tooth, and unusual reaction/allergy to medications given or prescribed. Also, medications have common side effects that are listed by the manufacturer. Further, if I am taking other medications, my dental medications could have an adverse interaction, and I need to fully disclose all of my medications to the dentist and pharmacist; this includes herbal supplements.

I understand that for many treatments and procedures I will be given a local anesthetic injection which may cause an untoward reaction or side effects which may include, but are not limited to, cardiac stimulation, bruising, muscle soreness, temporary or rarely permanent numbness, or temporary or permanent injury to nerves and/or blood vessels which may cause hematoma (blood that leaves the capillary and collects in a confined area). In a certain percentage of cases patients have had an allergic reaction to the anesthetic. I also understand that occasionally needles break and may require surgical retrieval.

I understand that the practice of dentistry is not an exact science and my dentist offers no guarantees or assurances as to the outcome or results of treatment or surgery. I have the right to ask my dentist for more information if I have any concerns about my procedures and the possible side effects or complications, and I promise to use that right to its fullest extent if for any reason I feel I am not fully informed about my procedure, the risks of the procedures, and my alternatives to the procedure.

My signature below confirms that I understand the above statements, that no dental treatment is completely risk free, and that my dentist will take reasonable steps to limit any complications of my treatment and to provide competent dentistry with comfort and care.