



POST-OP PULPOTOMY/PULPECTOMY (PEDO)

| DOB:

ENDODONTIC TREATMENT

Post-Operative Care Instructions

We want all of our patients who have had a pulpotomy or pulpectomy to have the proper information on how to care for their tooth after treatment:

- A temporary filling is placed over the medicated filling to build the tooth up to a more natural contour. This temporary filling will usually last 1 to 3 months. With few exceptions, all teeth that have had a pulpotomy will need a stainless steel crown (cap) in the near future to prevent the breakdown of the tooth.
- While serving in a capacity similar to a root canal, a pulpotomy is not a root canal. The human body can dissolve all materials used in a pulpotomy.
- Baby teeth with pulpotomies will be lost in the same way that other baby teeth are lost when the permanent tooth replacing them dissolves the root enough for them to be lost. There are no special concerns if the baby tooth with a pulpotomy is lost due to the eruption of a permanent tooth.
- Pulpotomies have been shown to have an 85% to 90% clinical success rate in primary teeth. It must be noted, however, that some pulpotomies will fail unpredictably and the primary tooth may need to be extracted in the future.

In order to give your child's tooth with the pulpotomy the longest possible life span, please have your child avoid the following foods: ice or ice cubes, hard candies, taffy, caramels, and jawbreakers.

Local Anesthesia

- The anesthesia used during your child's procedure will wear off within a few hours. Your child may experience tenderness, mild swelling or bruising to the injection site. In rare cases, prolonged numbness can occur. Please contact our office (908) 376 9297 if numbness does not wear off within 48 hours of your procedure.

Pain Management

It is normal for your child to experience some degree of discomfort for a few days. This tenderness is normal and is no cause for alarm.

- Discomfort may be alleviated by taking Aleve, ibuprofen (Advil), aspirin, or acetaminophen (Tylenol) as directed.
- Warm salt water rinses (1/2 teaspoon of salt in 8 ounces of water) may also help. Should your child experience discomfort that cannot be controlled with the above medications, or should swelling develop, please contact our office. We are here to help, and happy to do so.

Please call our office (908) 376 9297 if your child is having any difficulties. If it is after hours, follow the prompts to be connected to our answering service. If you feel that your symptoms warrant a physician, and you are unable to reach Dr. Beth Herko, please bring your child to the closest hospital emergency room immediately.

Patient's signature:

Date:

Doctor's signature:

Date: