

## **CARE OF STAINLESS STEEL CROWN**

As a cavity gets larger, it destroys more tooth structure. If there is not enough structure left to support a filling, a stainless steel crown (SSC) must be placed. A SSC will decrease the risk of tooth fracture and infection. This crown is a pre made silver cap that has been trimmed and fit to your child's tooth. It covers the entire tooth and extends slightly below the gum line to assure full protection.

Stainless steel crowns are used to restore:

- Decayed teeth that lack sufficient structure for a filling
- Fractured teeth
- Teeth that have required a nerve treatment (pulpotomy/pulpectomy)
- Hypoplastic teeth

The stainless steel crown will be placed in one appointment. We shape your child's tooth to the necessary form and trim the crown to fit tightly on the tooth. The cap is cemented into place and will fall out when the permanent tooth is ready to come in.

**Instructions for home care:**

- There are no restrictions on daily activities.
- The gums in the area of a SSC will generally be sore for 1-2 days following treatment.
- Encourage brushing right away and brush the SSC the same as any other tooth. A clean mouth heals faster.
- The diet should not include hard, sticky foods and candies as these have a tendency to pull the crown off, cause damage, and lead to further decay.

Call us at 512-451-8310 if you have any concerns.