



Consent Form: Stainless Steel Crown Consent (SSC)

What is a stainless steel crown (for baby and adult teeth) and its benefits?

A stainless steel crown restores the form and function of a tooth (TEMPORARILY). If a deciduous (baby) tooth has too much dental decay to warrant a filling, then a stainless steel crown should be placed. A stainless steel crown is typically a very durable protection cap for baby teeth, however, they are more of temporary-fix option when used for adult permanent teeth. If the tooth has had a pulpotomy (root canal on baby teeth), a stainless steel crown is often placed afterwards. If a permanent adult tooth receives a root canal, generally, a custom made tooth-like crown (porcelain or zirconia crow) is needed to protect that tooth. A stainless steel crown can be a temporary solution to having a custom made crown. Baby teeth which have had pulpotomies tend to become brittle and are more likely to break if a large filling only is placed. The same applies for adult teeth that have received a root canal—since they become weak and brittle soon after the procedure. Failure rates for stainless steel crowns used to protect baby teeth are less than 5% a year. Adult stainless steel crowns typically do not last past a few weeks to months—denoting their high failure rate.

Our goal is to achieve the best clinical outcome by trying the least invasive treatment. Stainless steel crowns are **not recommended**:

1. If the primary molar is close to exfoliation with more than half the roots resorbed
2. In a patient with a known nickel allergy

Some parents or patients may complain about the appearance of SSCs.

3. If the SSC dislodges from the tooth, there is no warranty and we cannot re-cement it. It is possible that it damages the tooth beyond repair.

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. The tooth may break and require an extraction. If the tooth is extracted, the remaining teeth may shift and require future orthodontics to reposition the permanent teeth. Instead of a stainless steel, patients can opt for Porcelain or Zirconia crowns. Porcelain and Zirconia crowns are custom made to the patient and made to look like real teeth.

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 Near Me 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 Near Me 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 Near Me Dental within a few days. 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 _____