

Informed Consent for Dental Prophylaxis. Exams. & X-rays

Dental Prophylaxis (Cleaning)

During dental Prophylaxis (Cleaning), I understand that it involves removing plaque and calculus above the gum line and will not include gum infections below the gum line called periodontal disease. I understand bleeding could last several hours. Should it persist, or is severe then you should receive attention immediately and this office must be contacted.

Fluoride

For nearly 70 years, Studies have consistently shown that fluoride in water and applied to teeth is safe and effective in preventing dental decay in both children and adults. The use of fluoride reduces tooth decay by at least 25%. I understand that the use of Fluoride is recommended and encouraged. It is, however, my responsibility to let the dental staff know if I wish to not have fluoride applied.

Exam and X-rays

I understand that the initial visit as well as recall appointments may require radiographs in order to complete the examination, diagnosis and treatment plan.

At this office, we use digital imaging which uses less radiation than the typical X-ray. Since there is very little radiation, dental x-rays are extremely safe. There are two main types of dental x-rays: intraoral (meaning the X-ray film is inside the mouth) and extraoral (meaning the X-ray film is outside the mouth).

o **Intraoral X-rays** are the most common type of dental x-ray taken.

These x-rays provide a lot of detail and allow your dentist to find cavities, check the status of developing teeth, monitor the general health of your teeth and jawbone. Some examples of these are Bitewing x-rays, periapical, and occlusal x-rays.

o **Extraoral X-rays** show teeth, but their main focus is the jaw and skull. These x-rays do not provide the detail found with intraoral x-rays and therefore are not used for detecting cavities or for identifying problems with individual teeth. Instead, extraoral x-rays are used to look for impacted teeth, monitor growth and development of the jaws in relation to the teeth, and to identify potential problems between teeth and jaws and the temporomandibular joint or other bones of the face. One example of that is the panoramic x-ray.

Patient Name: _____

Signature of Patient/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Witness: _____ Date: _____