



## Dental Procedure Information

### Crown

#### Introduction

A crown refers to the placement of an artificial crown on a tooth. It acts as a 'cap' that fits over the tooth which has been previously shaped and contoured.

#### Materials: 1. Full Porcelain

- Properties:
- Aesthetic – The color and translucency can match the natural teeth.
  - The material is not easily stained.
  - Harder and higher in wear resistance than composite restoration.
- Disadvantage:
- Brittle and suitable for non-stress bearing area only.
  - Certain thickness of tooth substance has to be removed in order to provide enough bulk of the material.
- Application:
- Tooth veneer or crown.
  - To restore teeth with high aesthetic requirement.

#### 2. Porcelain Fused to Gold

- Properties:
- Aesthetic: colour of outer surface is similar to natural tooth.
  - Strong and durable because of the gold alloy base.
  - Hard texture.
- Disadvantage:
- More tooth substance needs to be removed from the facial surface of the tooth than full gold crown preparation.
  - Not aesthetic as full porcelain crown: due to low transparency compared to full porcelain crown. Porcelain fused to gold crown will show the darken metal margin.
- Application: Used on anterior and posterior teeth.

#### 3. Full Gold Alloy

- Properties:
- Durable.
  - High wear resistance.
  - Gold alloy crown can be quite thin — only a small amount of tooth substance needs to be removed to accommodate it.
- Disadvantage: Metallic colour, poor aesthetics.
- Application: Used at high stress bearing area where good aesthetics is not a must, for example, posterior teeth.

#### 4. Stainless Steel

- Properties:
- Stainless steel crown is not custom-made. It is preformed with several sizes.
  - Since the crown is not custom-made, the procedures of fitting are simple and the time taken is relatively short.
- Disadvantage:
- Silvery colour, unaesthetic.
  - Non-stress bearing, not lasting.
  - Since the crown margin is not closely adapted to the tooth, the margin is prone to accumulation of dental plaque which causes dental caries and periodontal disease.
- Application: Used on molars of deciduous teeth.

## **Outcomes**

The purposes of this procedure are to restore the original shape and function of teeth. Also, it can improve the aesthetics of teeth, such as shape, size and colour. Moreover, it can restore the masticatory function of root canal treated teeth.

## **Procedures**

1. A thin layer of tooth substance on all surfaces of the crown is removed.
2. Impressions of the upper and lower teeth are taken and the bite registration is recorded. The prepared tooth is protected by a temporary crown.
3. The crown is fabricated in the dental laboratory.
4. 1 to 2 weeks later, temporary crown is removed and the tooth surface is cleaned.
5. The crown is cemented onto the tooth.

## **Pre-procedure Preparations**

The doctor will explain the reason, the procedure and the possible complications to you.

## **Points to note after preparation**

1. Contact the dentist if the temporary crown dislodges, since it can affect the fitting of the future crown.
2. You may experience some sensitivity after making the crown. If the sensitivity persists or condition worsens, please contact the dentist for further examination.
3. Initially, you may notice a difference between the new crown and the original teeth, but will soon become accustomed to it.
4. Please keep the teeth clean and visit the dentist regularly in order to maintain good oral health.

Should there be any enquiries or concerns, please consult the dentist.

Under the professional care of the dentist, you will gradually recover. We wish you all the best during your treatment and recovery.

If you have any questions after reading the entire leaflet, please write them down in the spaces provided in order for the dentist to further follow-up.

---

---

---

Compiled by Union Hospital Operating Theatre (OT) Governance Committee

The above information is for reference only, please enquire your physician for details  
Our Hospital reserves the RIGHT to amend any information in this leaflet without prior notification