

Impressions Consent

Dentures and Partial (Multi-Step Removables)

If you have been recommended or treatment planned for removable dentures or partials (oral prosthetics), it is important that you understand the capabilities of dentures, the time to make dentures, and the fit of dentures. It is especially important when your denture or partial is being made after teeth extractions. Remember, **dentures ARE NOT SUBSTITUTES for teeth**. Dentures only gives you back up to 20% of your chewing capabilities. The usual 200-250 pounds of force you used to be able to chew with is reduced to 50 pounds of force with dentures. Also, new dentures are like a new pair of shoes, they need to be broken into and they **WILL feel awkward, not fit properly, and hurt (sore spots)** when you get them. Making dentures is a **long delicate process**. At Sharonville Family Dental, it can take up to a year to get your dentures. We will attempt, to the best of our ability, to make you fitting dentures, but we are still faced with the limitation of science. Lower dentures are meant to float and will not ever fit well by nature. Many patients will never be able to achieve suction for the upper dentures without using glue products. You will likely need dental implants to help with ill-fitting dentures. Metal partials take about 3-4 months. If you have purchased Premium Dentures, it can be cut down to 6-9 weeks depending on how many Try-Ins it takes.

For patients with Medicaid insurance, if you lose insurance coverage during the middle of your denture/partial making process, you will be immediately charged \$600 per arch for the Lab Fees associated with your denture. If you wish you finish making them, they will be at an out-of-pocket cost of \$1800 per arch. We do, however, offer third-party financing. If you cannot bear these costs, please let the assistant know and she can refer you to a different practice who may be able to complete your dentures in a quicker time frame. **Pre-Authorization for Dentures last for 6 months. Because it takes more time than six months to make the dentures in most cases, a pre-authorization renewal is necessary. If the renewal is DENIED by your insurance, you will still bear the cost of the denture at \$1800 per arch.**

It is important to know that if you are planning to receive dentures or partials after extractions, proper healing time must be observed before we can start making them. Keep in mind, **EVERY MOUTH IS DIFFERENT**. Since no one mouth is the same, healing times will vary from patient to patient. It is professionally advised (recommended) that patients should wait **AT LEAST 6-9 MONTHS after teeth extraction(s) before denture impressions** are made to your gums. After your extractions, a follow-up appointment is typically made to review your healing progress. Defective Dentures/partial must be returned.

REMEMBER: JUST BECAUSE YOUR GUMS HAVE HEALED AND CLOSED, DOES NOT MEAN THAT YOU ARE READY FOR YOUR DENTURES. THE BONE UNDERNEATH THE GUM WILL CONTINUE TO REMODEL, SHRINK, AND SHIFT FOR ANOTHER 6-9 MONTHS. IT IS NORMAL FOR YOUR GUMS/BONES TO CHANGE SHAPE OR EVEN POKE OUT.

Warning: If you choose to have your dentures and/or partials made BEFORE the recommended healing period, there is a very high chance that they will not fit once they are finalized. Natural shrinking and gum/bone movements will occur during the several weeks that it takes to make your dentures. If you elect to start on the dentures before this recommended time frame, please let our assistants know and they can refer to you a different practice to take on the denture making process. There will likely be charges that you may face for RELINING your dentures/partial (changing the shape of your dentures to fit your most current gum shape). By signing this notice, you understand that your insurance company WILL NOT cover reline charges until 4 years after you received your dentures/partial. That means that any **reline charges in the meantime will be your responsibility**. You will only receive TWO denture adjustments after your dentures/partial are made. Additional adjustments are at a charge.

The process of **making dentures takes about a year (partials are about 4 months)** (depending on the complexity of your mouth). There are four steps involved with making your dentures: (1) **Taking impressions** (typically only takes one visit, but sometimes, the lab may request for additional impressions). (2) **Wax Bite Registration**. (3) **Try-in with teeth in wax**. (4) **Seat processed dentures**. Additional steps and/or additional processing time may be required for partials or more complex cases. If you ordered IMMEDIATE DENTURES (also known as interim dentures), you will typically only have one visit for the impressions and bite registration. For patients who lack posterior (back) teeth, you may be required to come back in for a second wax block bite registration. Immediate dentures take about two and a half weeks to complete.

WARNING ABOUT IMMEDIATE DENTURES: Keep in mind that **immediate dentures are a GUESS** of what your gums will be like after your teeth are taken out. This GUESS can lead to a lot of errors because post-surgery mouths can be very different. Sore spots, pain, and inability to chew with immediate dentures is NORMAL. They are meant mostly for **cosmetic purposes—not for chewing**. Immediate dentures are put on right after surgery. They cover the surgery sites, which will get sore and painful for a while. Pain associated with immediate denture use is inevitable. They will be adjusted in two follow-up appointments as necessary because your gums/bones will continue to remodel. This is why **PERMANENT DENTURES are still made 6-9 months later**. It is almost guaranteed that immediate dentures will start to not fit even after a few days and will require a reline after 2 months.

I have read, understood, and agreed to this notice: Print Name _____ Valid Phone # _____

Patient Signature _____

Date _____