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CARE FOLLOWING THE PLACEMENT OF A COMPOSITE RESTORATION

No heavy chewing for 24 hours: A tooth colored composite filling is 80% hard at the time of placement and continues to harden for an additional 24 hours before reaching its full strength. Heavy chewing can create microfractures within the restoration and shorten its lifespan.

If the tooth is sensitive: Some sensitivity to chewing and cold is normal following the placement of a composite restoration. On occasion this sensitivity can last several months; however, any sensitivity that lasts more than three days should be brought to the attention of Dr. Nealis.

Soreness at the injection site: After anesthetic wears off, the injection site(s) may be tender. For minor pain take what you would normally use for headaches. This discomfort should not last more than a day. If it lasts longer, please alert Dr. Nealis.

If the restoration contacts before the other teeth: If your bite doesn't feel normal, wait three days for the teeth to shift into equilibrium. If it still doesn't feel right, call our office. Dr. Nealis is very careful to get the "fit" as precise as possible; however, getting the bite perfect is difficult when your teeth and jaw are numb. A tooth that contacts prematurely might cause soreness or cold sensitivity, and if allowed to continue for an extended time, the bone surrounding the tooth could be damaged.