

Welcome to our practice.

Our mission is to help our patients achieve the greatest level of oral health possible while also satisfying their personal aesthetic goals. Using the best technology and materials, our friendly, knowledgeable and helpful team will effectively provide the highest quality dental care in a clean, modern and organized facility.

Our vision is to have an office where every patient is treated comprehensively and with integrity. We strive to nurture an environment where the sanctity of the doctor-patient relationship and the uncompromising commitment to quality care is valued as a life-long partnership.

We think you'll find us a little different in small, but important ways. First, we'll involve you--depend on you, actually--during the course of your treatment. Dental health is a team enterprise with one collective goal--nurturing your teeth, mouth and gums to simply be the best they can be. A smile is one of our greatest personal assets.

Over the past few years, innovation in dentistry has advanced treatment options considerably. New technology helps diagnose problems earlier. This allows dentists like Dr. Kolokithas to treat problems with "kinder and gentler" techniques. Our new instrument, called CEREC, allows us to complete a ceramic tooth restoration in one visit instead of two, saving you time and inconvenience. This technology uses tooth-colored material, so your smile won't be discolored by old silver fillings. We are very excited to be in the 3% of dentists within the U.S. who have this new technology.

We look forward to being your dental health care provider and encourage you to always discuss any questions or concerns you may have with us at any time so you can relax and feel good about your visits with us. Again, welcome.

Steven G. Kolokithas, D.D.S.

300 S. 20th St, Rogers, AR 72758
479-636-0777
Frontoffice@symphonydentalcare.com

Symphony Dental Care
Art & science in perfect harmony
www.symphonydentalcare.com

Patient's full name _____
Date of Birth _____ Sex _____
If minor, name of legal guardian _____
Home phone _____ Mobile phone _____
Work phone _____
Email address: _____
Mailing address _____ City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Whom may we thank for referring you to our office?
Do you have any dental concerns at this time?

If you have insurance please fill in the following information:

Name of Insured _____ Insured DOB _____

Relationship to Insured: Self _____ Spouse _____ Child _____ Other _____

Employer sponsored plan? Yes ___ No ___

If yes, name of Employer _____

Insured SS# : _____ Member ID#: _____

Dental Insurance Co. _____ Group number _____ Claims
Address _____

Covered by Secondary insurance? Yes ___ No ___

Insured Name _____

Relationship to Insured: Self _____ Spouse _____ Child _____ Other _____

Insured DOB _____ Name of Employer _____

Insured dental insurance company _____

Claims Address _____

Insured SS#: _____ or Member ID#: _____ Group number _____

MEDICAL HISTORY

PATIENT NAME _____ Birth Date _____

Although dental personnel primarily treat the area in and around your mouth, your mouth is a part of your entire body. Health problems that you may have, or medication that you may be taking, could have an important interrelationship with the dentistry you will receive. Thank you for answering the following questions.

- Are you under a physician's care now? Yes No If yes, please explain: _____
- Have you ever been hospitalized or had a major operation? Yes No If yes, please explain: _____
- Have you ever had a serious head or neck injury? Yes No If yes, please explain: _____
- Are you taking any medications, pills, or drugs? Yes No If yes, please explain: _____
- Do you take, or have you taken, Phen-Fen or Redux? Yes No _____
- Have you ever taken Fosamax, Boniva, Actonel or any other medications containing bisphosphonates? Yes No _____
- Are you on a special diet? Yes No
- Do you use tobacco? Yes No
- Do you use controlled substances? Yes No

Women: Are you Pregnant/Trying to get pregnant? Yes No Taking oral contraceptives? Yes No Nursing? Yes No

Are you allergic to any of the following?
 Aspirin Penicillin Codeine Local Anesthetics Acrylic Metal Latex Sulfa drugs
 Other If yes, please explain: _____

- Do you have, or have you had, any of the following?
- | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| AIDS/HIV Positive <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Cortisone Medicine <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Hemophilia <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Radiation Treatments <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Alzheimer's Disease <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Diabetes <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Hepatitis A <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Recent Weight Loss <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Anaphylaxis <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Drug Addiction <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Hepatitis B or C <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Renal Dialysis <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Anemia <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Easily Winded <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Herpes <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Rheumatic Fever <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Angina <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Emphysema <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | High Blood Pressure <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Rheumatism <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Arthritis/Gout <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Epilepsy or Seizures <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | High Cholesterol <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Scarlet Fever <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Artificial Heart Valve <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Excessive Bleeding <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Hives or Rash <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Shingles <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Artificial Joint <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Excessive Thirst <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Hypoglycemia <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Sickle Cell Disease <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Asthma <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Fainting Spells/Dizziness <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Irregular Heartbeat <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Sinus Trouble <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Blood Disease <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Frequent Cough <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Kidney Problems <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Spina Bifida <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Blood Transfusion <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Frequent Diarrhea <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Leukemia <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Stomach/Intestinal Disease <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Breathing Problem <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Frequent Headaches <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Liver Disease <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Stroke <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Bruise Easily <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Genital Herpes <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Low Blood Pressure <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Swelling of Limbs <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Cancer <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Glaucoma <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Lung Disease <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Thyroid Disease <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Chemotherapy <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Hay Fever <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Mitral Valve Prolapse <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Tonsillitis <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Chest Pains <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Heart Attack/Failure <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Osteoporosis <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Tuberculosis <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Cold Sores/Fever Blisters <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Heart Murmur <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Pain in Jaw Joints <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Tumors or Growths <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Congenital Heart Disorder <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Heart Pacemaker <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Parathyroid Disease <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Ulcers <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Convulsions <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Heart Trouble/Disease <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Psychiatric Care <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Venereal Disease <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| | | | Yellow Jaundice <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |

Have you ever had any serious illness not listed above? Yes No _____

Comments: _____

To the best of my knowledge, the questions on this form have been accurately answered. I understand that providing incorrect information can be dangerous to my (or patient's) health. It is my responsibility to inform the dental office of any changes in medical status.

SIGNATURE OF PATIENT, PARENT, or GUARDIAN _____ DATE _____

OFFICE FINANCIAL POLICY

Thank you for choosing us to provide your dental care. We are committed to providing you with excellent care, and timely payment of fees allows us to devote more time and effort to caring for you and your smile. Our Financial Policy is based on an open and honest discussion of our fees. **Please read, sign and return this agreement.**

Payment in full is due at the time of service. We offer the following options of payment for treatment provided:

1. We accept Cash, Checks, Visa, Mastercard, Discover and American Express.
2. A **5%** discount for **pre-payment** (i.e. payment ***before*** the day of service) of treatment **over \$500** using cash or check if:
 - a. Insured patient assumes full responsibility for insurance claim (i.e. pays the entire fee and is then reimbursed directly by the insurance company). Otherwise, the 5% pre-payment discount will be applied based on the patient's estimated portion and not to the entire fee.
 - b. Patient has no insurance.
3. If you have insurance, your **estimated patient portion is due at the time of service.**

Insurance

As a service to our patients, we will bill your insurance company. Your insurance policy is a contract between you and your insurance company. As a health care provider, we are not party to that agreement. Insurance policies vary, and services rendered may not be covered. ***Our practice philosophy is to provide you with the best possible care.*** If your insurance does not cover all or part of treatment provided, **you will be responsible for payment of fees not reimbursed by insurance.** Our office is committed to helping our patients maximize their benefits, and will work with you to achieve maximum benefit from your coverage. We are always available to answer your questions.

Missed Appointment

The policy of this office is to **charge for missed appointments** (\$65 per hour scheduled). This fee is to help defray the cost of the professional team that was assembled and ready to care for you.

An appointment is considered "missed" if you do not show up for your appointment, or if you cancel your appointment with less than **two business days notice**. Please note that our office is closed on Friday. Therefore, cancellations for Monday should be made before noon Thursday.

Once an appointment has been made, this time is reserved specifically for you. Keeping your scheduled appointments enables us to better serve your needs.

Financial Consent

The patient (or legal guardian) agrees to be fully responsible for payment of treatment provided by this office.

I understand and accept the above Financial Policy.

Signature of patient/legal guardian

Date

Steven G. Kolokithas, D.D.S.
Notice of Privacy Practices

This Notice describes how your health information may be used and disclosed and how you can get access to this information. Please review it carefully. The privacy of your health information is important to us.

Our Legal Duty

Federal and state laws require us to maintain the privacy of your health information. We are also required to provide this Notice about our office's privacy practices, our legal duties, and your rights regarding your health information. We are required to follow the practices that are outlined in this Notice while it is in effect. This Notice takes effect 04/04/2003 and will remain in effect until we replace it.

We reserve the right to change our privacy practices and the terms of this Notice at any time, provided such changes are permitted by applicable law. We reserve the right to make changes in our privacy practices and the new terms of our Notice effective for all health information that we maintain, including health information we created or received before we made the changes. Before we make a significant change in our privacy practices, we will change this Notice and make the new Notice available upon request. For more information about our privacy practices or additional copies of this Notice, please contact us (contact information below).

Uses and Disclosures of Health Information

We use and disclose health information about you for treatment, payment, and healthcare operations. For example:

Treatment:

We disclose medical information to our employees and others who are involved in providing the care you need. We may use or disclose your health information to another dentist or other healthcare providers providing treatment that we do not provide. We may also share your health information with a pharmacist in order to provide you with a prescription, or with a laboratory that performs tests or fabricates dental prostheses or orthodontic appliances.

Payment:

We may use and disclose your health information to obtain payment for services we provide you, unless you request that we restrict such disclosure to your health plan when you have paid out-of-pocket and in full for services rendered.

Healthcare Operations:

We may use and disclose your health information in connection with our healthcare operations. Healthcare operations include, but are not limited to, quality assessment and improvement activities, reviewing the competence or qualifications of healthcare professionals, evaluating practitioner and provider performance, conducting training programs, accreditation, certification, licensing or credentialing activities.

Your Authorization:

In addition to our use of your health information for treatment, payment or healthcare operations, you may give us written authorization to use your health information or to disclose it to anyone for any purpose. If you give us an authorization, you may revoke it in writing at any time. Your revocation will not affect any use or disclosures permitted by your authorization while it is in effect. Unless you give us a written authorization, we cannot use or disclose your health information for any reason except those described in this Notice.

To Your Family and Friends:

We must disclose your health information to you, as described in the Patient Rights section of this Notice. You have the right to request restrictions on disclosure to family members, other relatives, close personal friends, or any other person identified by you.

Unsecured Email:

We will not send you unsecured emails pertaining to your health information without your prior authorization. If you do authorize communications via unsecured email, you have the right to revoke the authorization at any time.

Persons Involved in Care:

We may use or disclose health information to notify, or assist in the notification of (including identifying or locating) a family member, your personal representative or another person responsible for your care, of your location, your general condition, or death. If you are present, then prior to use or disclosure of your health information, we will provide you with an opportunity to object to such uses or disclosures. In the event of your incapacity or emergency circumstances, we will disclose health information based on a determination using our professional judgment disclosing only health information that is directly relevant to the person's involvement in your healthcare. We will also use our professional judgment and our experience with common practice to make reasonable inferences of your best interest in allowing a person to pick up filled prescriptions, medical supplies, X-rays, or other similar forms of health information.

Health-Related Services:

We may contact you about products or services related to your treatment, case management or care coordination, or to propose other treatments or health-related benefits and services in which you may be interested. We may also encourage you to purchase a product or service when you visit our office. If you are currently an enrollee of a dental plan, we may receive payment for communications to you in relation to our provision, coordination, or management of your dental care, including our coordination or management of your health care with a third party, our consultation with other health care providers relating to your care, or if we refer you for health care.

Change of Ownership:

If this dental practice is sold or merged with another practice or organization, your health records will become the property of the new owner. However, you may request that copies of your health information be transferred to another dental practice.

Required by Law:

We may use or disclose your health information when we are required to do so by law.

Public Health:

We may, and are sometimes legally obligated, to disclose your health information to public health agencies for purposes related to preventing or controlling disease, injury or disability; reporting abuse or neglect; reporting domestic violence; reporting to the Food and Drug Administration problems with products and reactions to medications; and reporting disease or infection exposure. Upon reporting suspected elder or dependent adult abuse or domestic violence, we will promptly inform you or your personal representative unless we believe the notification would place you at risk of harm or would require informing a personal representative we believe is responsible for the abuse or harm.

Abuse or Neglect:

We may disclose your health information to appropriate authorities if we reasonably believe that you are a possible victim of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence or the possible victim of other crimes. We may disclose your health information to the extent necessary to avert a serious threat to your health or safety or the health or safety of others.

National Security:

We may disclose to military authorities the health information of Armed Forces personnel under certain circumstances. We may disclose to authorized federal officials health information required for lawful intelligence, counterintelligence, and other national security activities. We may disclose to correctional institutions or law enforcement officials having lawful custody of protected health information of inmates or patients under certain circumstances.

Appointment Reminders:

We may contact you to provide you with appointment reminders via email, voicemail, postcards, or letters. We may also leave a message with the person answering the phone if you are not available.

Check In and Announcement:

Upon arriving at our office, we may use and disclose information about you by asking that you to review information at our front desk. We may also announce your name when we are ready to see you.

Patient Rights**Access:**

You have the right to look at or get copies of your health information, with limited exceptions. You may request that we provide copies in a format other than photocopies. We will use the format you request unless we cannot practicably do so. You must make a request in writing to obtain access to your health information. You may obtain a form to request access by contacting our office. We will charge you a reasonable cost-based fee for expenses such as copies and staff time. You may also request access by sending us a letter. If you request copies, there may be a charge for time spent. If you request an alternate format, we will charge a cost-based fee for providing your health information in that format. If you prefer, we will prepare a summary or an explanation of your health information for a fee. Contact us for a full explanation of our fee structure.

Disclosure Accounting:

You have a right to receive a list of instances in which we disclosed your health information for purposes other than treatment, payment, healthcare operations and certain other activities for the last six years. If you request this accounting more than once in a 12-month period, we may charge you a reasonable cost-based fee for responding to these additional requests.

Restriction:

You have the right to request that we place additional restrictions on our use or disclosure of your health information. We are not required to agree to these additional restrictions, but if we do, we will abide by our agreement (except in emergency). In the event you pay out-of-pocket and in full for services rendered, you may request that we not share your health information with your health plan. We must agree to this request.

Alternative Communication:

You have the right to request that we communicate with you about your health information by alternative means or to alternative locations. You must make your request in writing. Your request must specify the alternative means or location, and provide satisfactory explanation of how payments will be handled under the alternative means or location you request.

Breach Notification:

In the event your unsecured protected health information is breached, we will notify you as required by law. In some situations, you may be notified by our business associates.

Amendment:

You have the right to request that we amend your health information. (Your request must be in writing, and it must explain why the information should be amended). We may deny your request under certain circumstances.

DENTAL MATERIALS FACT SHEET

PORCELAIN FUSED TO METAL This type of porcelain is a glass-like material that is “enameled” on top of metal shells. It is tooth-colored and is used for crowns and fixed bridges

Advantages

- ♥ Good resistance to further decay if the restoration fits well
- ♥ Very durable, due to metal substructure
- ♥ The material does not cause tooth sensitivity
- ♥ Resists leakage because it can be shaped for a very accurate fit

Disadvantages

- More tooth must be removed (than for porcelain) for the metal substructure
- Higher cost because it requires at least two office visits and laboratory services

GOLD ALLOY

Gold alloy is a gold-colored mixture of gold, copper, and other metals and is used mainly for crowns and fixed bridges and some partial denture frameworks

Advantages

- ♥ Good resistance to further decay if the restoration fits well
- ♥ Excellent durability; does not fracture under stress
- ♥ Does not corrode in the mouth
- ♥ Minimal amount of tooth needs to be removed
- ♥ Wears well; does not cause excessive wear to opposing teeth
- ♥ Resists leakage because it can be shaped for a very accurate fit

Disadvantages

- Is not tooth colored; alloy is yellow
- Conducts heat and cold; may irritate sensitive teeth
- High cost; requires at least two office visits and laboratory services

What About the Safety of Filling Materials?

Patient health and the safety of dental treatments are the primary goals of California’s dental professionals and the Dental Board of California. The purpose of this fact sheet is to provide you with information concerning the risks and benefits of all the dental materials used in the restoration (filling) of teeth.

The Dental Board of California is required by law* to make this dental materials fact sheet available to every licensed dentist in the state of California. Your dentist, in turn, must provide this fact

sheet to every new patient and all patients of record only once before beginning any dental filling procedure.

As the patient or parent/guardian, you are strongly encouraged to discuss with your dentist the facts presented concerning the filling materials being considered for your particular treatment.

* *Business and Professions Code 1648.10-1648.20*

Allergic Reactions to Dental Materials

Components in dental fillings may have side effects or cause allergic reactions, just like other materials we may come in contact with in our daily lives. The risks of such reactions are very low for all types of filling materials. Such reactions can be caused by specific components of the filling materials such as mercury, nickel, chromium, and/or beryllium alloys. Usually, an allergy will reveal itself as a skin rash and is easily reversed when the individual is not in contact with the material.

There are no documented cases of allergic reactions to composite resin, glass ionomer, resin ionomer, or porcelain. However, there have been rare allergic responses reported with dental amalgam, porcelain fused to metal, gold alloys, and nickel or cobalt-chrome alloys.

If you suffer from allergies, discuss these potential problems with your dentist before a filling material is chosen.

PORCELAIN (CERAMIC)

Porcelain is a glass-like material formed into fillings or crowns using models of the prepared teeth. The material is tooth-colored and is used in inlays, veneers, crowns and fixed bridges.

Advantages

- ♥ Very little tooth needs to be removed for use as a veneer; more tooth needs to be removed for a crown because its strength is related to its bulk (size)
- ♥ Good resistance to further decay if the restoration fits well
- ♥ Is resistant to surface wear but can cause some wear on opposing teeth
- ♥ Resists leakage because it can be shaped for a very accurate fit
- ♥ The material does not cause tooth sensitivity

Disadvantages

- Material is brittle and can break under biting forces
- May not be recommended for molar teeth

- Higher cost because it requires at least two office visits and laboratory services

NICKEL OR COBALTCHROME ALLOYS

Nickel or cobalt-chrome alloys are mixtures of nickel and chromium. They are a dark silver metal color and are used for crowns and fixed bridges and most partial denture frameworks.

Advantages

- ♥ Good resistance to further decay if the restoration fits well
- ♥ Excellent durability; does not fracture under stress
- ♥ Does not corrode in the mouth
- ♥ Minimal amount of tooth needs to be removed
- ♥ Resists leakage because it can be shaped for a very accurate fit

Disadvantages

- Is not tooth colored; alloy is a dark silver metal color
- Conducts heat and cold; may irritate sensitive teeth
- Can be abrasive to opposing teeth
- High cost; requires at least two office visits and laboratory services
- Slightly higher wear to opposing teeth

GLASS IONOMER CEMENT

Glass ionomer cement is a self-hardening mixture of glass and organic acid. It is tooth-colored and varies in translucency. Glass ionomer is usually used for small fillings, cementing metal and porcelain/metal crowns, liners, and temporary restorations.

Advantages

- ♥ Reasonably good esthetics
- ♥ May provide some help against decay because it releases fluoride
- ♥ Minimal amount of tooth needs to be removed and it bonds well to both the enamel and the dentin beneath the enamel
- ♥ Material has low incidence of producing tooth sensitivity
- ♥ Usually completed in one dental visit

Disadvantages

- Cost is very similar to composite resin (which costs more than amalgam)
- Limited use because it is not recommended for biting surfaces in permanent teeth

DENTAL MATERIALS FACT SHEET

- As it ages, this material may become rough and could
- Increase the accumulation of plaque and chance of periodontal disease
- Does not wear well; tends to crack over time and can be dislodged

RESIN-IONOMER CEMENT

Resin ionomer cement is a mixture of glass and resin polymer and organic acid that hardens with exposure to a blue light used in the dental office. It is tooth colored but more translucent than glass ionomer cement. It is most often used for small fillings, cementing metal and porcelain metal crowns and liners.

Advantages

- ♥ Very good esthetics
- ♥ May provide some help against decay because it releases fluoride
- ♥ Minimal amount of tooth needs to be removed and it bonds well to both the enamel and the dentin beneath the enamel
- ♥ Good for non-biting surfaces
- ♥ May be used for short-term primary teeth restorations
- ♥ May hold up better than glass ionomer, but not as composite
- ♥ Good resistance to leakage
- ♥ Material has low incidence of producing tooth sensitivity
- ♥ Usually completed in one dental visit

Disadvantages

- Cost is very similar to composite resin (which costs more than amalgam)
- Limited use because it is not recommended to restore the biting surfaces of adults
- Wears faster than composite and amalgam

Toxicity of Dental Materials

Dental Amalgam

Mercury in its elemental form is on the State of California's Proposition 65 list of chemicals known to the state to cause reproductive toxicity. Mercury may harm the developing brain of a child or fetus.

Dental amalgam is created by mixing elemental mercury (43.54%) and an alloy powder (46-57%) composed mainly of silver, tin, and copper. This has caused discussion about the risks of mercury in dental amalgam. Such mercury is emitted in minute amounts as

vapor. Some concerns have been raised regarding possible toxicity. Scientific research continues on the safety of dental amalgam. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there is scant evidence that the health of the vast majority of people with amalgam is compromised.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and other public health organizations have investigated the safety of amalgam used in dental fillings. The conclusion: no valid scientific evidence has shown that amalgams cause harm to patients with dental restorations, except in rare cases of allergy. The World Health Organization reached a similar conclusion stating, "Amalgam restorations are safe and cost effective."

A diversity of opinions exists regarding the safety of dental amalgams. Questions have been raised about its safety in pregnant women, children, and diabetics. However, scientific evidence and research literature in peer-reviewed scientific journals suggest that otherwise healthy women, children, and diabetics are not at an increased risk from dental amalgams in their mouths. The FDA places no restrictions on the use of dental amalgam.

Composite Resin

Some Composite Resins include Crystalline Silica, which is on the State of California's Proposition 65 list of chemicals known to the state to cause cancer.

It is always a good idea to discuss any dental treatment thoroughly with your dentist.

DENTAL AMALGAM FILLINGS

Dental amalgam is a self-hardening mixture of silver-tin-copper alloy powder and liquid mercury and is sometimes referred to as silver fillings because of its color. It is often used as a filling material and

COMPOSITE RESIN FILLINGS

Composite fillings are a mixture of powdered glass and plastic resin, sometimes referred to as white, plastic, or tooth-colored fillings. It is used for fillings, inlays, veneers, partial and complete crowns, or to replacement for broken teeth.

Advantages

- ♥ Durable; long lasting
- ♥ Wears well; holds up well to the forces of biting
- ♥ Relatively inexpensive
- ♥ Generally completed in one visit

- ♥ Self-sealing; minimal-to-no shrinkage and resists leakage
- ♥ Resistance to further decay is high, but can be difficult to find in early stages
- ♥ Frequency of repair and replacement is low

Disadvantages

Refer to "What About the Safety of Filling Materials"
Gray colored, not tooth colored
May darken as it corrodes; may stain teeth over time
Requires removal of some healthy tooth
In larger amalgam fillings, the remaining tooth may weaken and fracture
Because metal can conduct hot and cold temperatures, there may be a temporary sensitivity to hot and cold.
Contact with other metals may cause occasional, minute electrical flow repair portions of broken teeth.

Advantages

- ♥ Strong and durable ♥ Tooth colored ♥ Single visit for fillings
- ♥ Resists breaking ♥ Maximum amount of tooth preserved
- ♥ Small risk of leakage if bonded only to enamel

♥ Does not corrode

♥ Generally holds up well to the forces of biting depending on product used

- ♥ Resistance to further decay is moderate and easy to find
- ♥ Frequency of repair or replacement is low to moderate

Disadvantages

- Refer to "What About the Safety of Filling Materials"
- Moderate occurrence of tooth sensitivity; sensitive to dentist's method of application
- Costs more than dental amalgam
- Material shrinks when hardened and could lead to further decay and/or temperature sensitivity
- Requires more than one visit for inlays, veneers, and crowns
- May wear faster than dental enamel
- May leak over time when bonded beneath the layer of enamel

The Facts About Fillings The durability of any dental restoration is influenced not only by the material it is made from but also by the dentist's technique when placing the restoration. Other factors include the supporting materials used in the procedure and the patient's cooperation during the procedure. The length of time a restoration will last is dependent upon your dental hygiene, home care, and diet and chewing habits.

Dr. Kolokithas
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1. I, _____ authorize the office of Dr. Kolokithas to use my information.
2. I, _____ authorize the office of Dr. Kolokithas to contact me about appointments, financial payments, insurance, referrals, etc., using: (Please circle all that you give approval to use.)
Email: _____
Cell Phone: _____
Social Media: (please specify which one) _____
3. I, _____ authorize the office of Dr. Kolokithas to send me text messages and, or email to remind me of appointments.
4. I, _____ authorize the office of Dr. Kolokithas to provide dental services and care for me.

Print Name: _____

Print Name if Authorized Signature/Personal Representative: _____

Relationship to patient: _____

Date of Signature: _____

You have the right not to sign and understand that we may be unable to treat you in the future should we need to use your information outside of this office.

Patient or Authorized Signature Declines to sign: _____

Date: _____