

# Dental Terminology

## *Crowns*

A tooth shade restoration usually covers the whole exposed (coronal) portion of a tooth. Crowns are made by a laboratory from impressions taken by a dentist. Crowns are frequently used in bridgework or to restore badly damaged teeth. Like fillings, crowns are available in many types - plastic, acrylic, gold, and porcelain in addition to stainless steel.

## *Endodontics*

Treatment of the dental pulp including root canal therapy.

## *Extractions*

Simple extractions and surgical extractions of the natural teeth.

## *Fillings*

Dental restoration inserted in the teeth. Most common fillings are:

1. Amalgam - used primarily in posterior teeth.
2. Composite Resin - tooth shade restoration used in anterior teeth.

## *General Anesthesia*

When medically necessary and administered in connection with oral surgery.

## *Periodontics*

Treatment of diseases of gums and supporting structure of the teeth.

## *Prophylaxis*

Professional cleaning and scaling of teeth. Benefits paid for one service performed 2 times in 12 months.

## *Prosthodontics*

Installation of full and partial dentures (including 6-month post installation care) and fixed bridge-work.

## *Sealants*

Mechanically and/or chemically prepared enamel surface sealed to prevent decay.

## *Space Maintainers*

An appliance used on a child after early loss of a first tooth. It prevents teeth from drifting while maintaining sufficient space for permanent tooth to emerge.

## *Topical Fluoride*

Treatments during which a solution of sodium fluoride is applied to the teeth to help prevent tooth decay.

## *X-Rays*

Intra-oral Radiographs

- Posterior-antero and lateral skull and facial bone - Survey Film
- Panoramic-maxillary and mandibular - Single Film