

INFORMED CONSENT FOR NEW DENTURES

A new set of dentures brings a new smile and new dimensions for you. It is exciting to think of a new smile and the changes that go with that. Our dental team is confident that we can meet your needs and provide you with the most usable and best cosmetic look possible. However, there are many concerns that need to be addressed before we begin to process your new dentures.

Our first concern is that you do not anticipate a replica of your old dentures. Dental materials and more effective ways have been made to provide the best fit and best cosmetic look available.

Also, if we are replacing an old set, you need to be aware of the changes that have occurred in your bone structure over time. After teeth have been removed and it has been a few years, our bones of our jaws start to resorb. This causes our face to lose vertical dimension, a sunken or closed look. It also makes it difficult to place a lower denture, as the ridge that the denture rests on is not the same as it once was. There is less bone support for the new denture.

When we try to increase the vertical in your face and mouth, this creates a new set of issues. Comfort and usability are key factors here. When we increase vertical, we are forcing your muscles to increase. Even one millimeter, which doesn't look or sound like a lot, is a great deal for your muscles to get used to. It may take several visits for the comfort to get even tolerable. Your muscles have been so used to the way things used to be that it might be too much for them to handle.

Bite adjustment is also a big factor when processing a new denture. This is why we go to great lengths to get things the way you would like them. We want your new dentures to be as usable as possible.

You also need to be aware that no matter what we do, we will never be able to reproduce natural tooth structure. Nature has made our teeth, through evolution, the best that they can be, and we can never replace the original.

Patient's Name

Signature (parent if patient is under the age of 18)

Date

Print Name (parent if patient is under the age of 18)

Staff Initials