

(for the dentist or back office)

CROWN AND BRIDGE

Prep: NCMH. # ____. Pain x __ days. 1 PA. Dx: ____. Explain ADRA for ① PFM ② APC ③ extraction ④ nothing. Pt chooses ①. Consent form signed. No Qs.

OCS-. BP __/__. Perio for tooth WNL. Stand anes - __ carp. Prep. [E1, E2, D1, D2, D3]. Retraction cord. Remove decay. Imp. Post [material] placed with [type] cement. B/U [material] needed because 35% or less of tooth structure remaining. Seat temp w/[cement]. ✓ occl for crowned and opposing teeth. Written and oral POI given. Will call if any problems. [R̄]. [DDS/asst initials]

Seat: NCMH. OCS-. BP __/__. Try-in. Pt approves shade in natural light and with mirror. Seat w/[cement]. Good all-around fit. Remove excess cement. ✓ margins w/ explorer, contacts, embrasures. ✓ occl for crown and opposing teeth. Polish. BW shows margins closed. Pt very pleased, stating “__.” Written and oral POI given. Will call if any problems. [R̄]. [DDS/asst initials]

Notes:

If the patient stopped taking Coumadin for this procedure, it is essential to add this sentence to the above template: “Told pt it is critical to contact physician ASAP to resume Coumadin use.”

Possible Dx: deep decay; recurrent cervical decay; carries under existing PFM; broken/fx'd/failing amal filling; fx'd ML cusp; missing tooth; pt's wishes (for cosmetics); RCT.

Use the decay classification model advocated by CAMBRA [**C**Arries **M**anagement **B**y **R**isk **A**ssessment]. After removing carries, one of five labels is recorded. E stands for "enamel." D stands for "dentin."

E1 - carries penetrated the outer 50% of enamel
E2 - carries penetrated the inner 50% of enamel
D1 - carries penetrated the outer 1/3 of dentin
D2 - carries penetrated the middle 1/3 of dentin
D3 - carries penetrated the inner 1/3 of dentin

“Retraction cord placed” prior to impression disproves any later claim of biological width impingement.

A bitewing is taken after delivery to prove radiographically that there were no open

margins when the patient left your office.

Redo entry: "Pt not like PFM due to [reason(s)]. Told pt I will redo once at N/C."

ADRA = Advantages, Disadvantages, Risks and Alternatives (informed consent legal standard)

Explanation of Immediate Temporary Dentures and Permanent Dentures

As explained to you by the dentist and staff, you have chosen dentures over other options to restore missing teeth. Your treatment will occur in two phases. Each will have a separate fee.

Phase I

Your remaining teeth will be extracted and an immediate temporary denture will be placed. The cost for Phase I is as follows:

Extraction of _____teeth	\$ _____
Upper and lower immediate Temporary dentures	\$ _____
Total cost for Phase I	\$ _____

Over the next several months, your gums and tissues will change – sometimes dramatically! The roots of teeth help maintain the ridges of bone upon which immediate temporary dentures sit. Over time, the bony ridges begin to shrink and change as your mouth adapts to the loss of teeth and the new dental appliances. You should expect your immediate temporary dentures to become more loose, since there will be less mechanical support for them.

To temporarily compensate for the changes, multiple follow-up office visits will be required. Sometimes simple adjustments can be made, but at other times “soft” temporary liners may be inserted in the immediate temporary dentures. All office visits and temporary soft liners are included in the above price for Phase I.

Phase II

After your mouth has stabilized (usually around six to nine months), the dentist will inform you that you are ready for permanent dentures. Depending upon how your mouth has changed, two options are available.

The easiest and least expensive option is to convert your immediate temporary dentures into permanent dentures with “hard” permanent liners. A dental laboratory will add acrylic material to your dentures. For a short period of time you will be without your dentures while this process occurs.

If your mouth has changed so much that a “hard” permanent liner would be ineffective, then your immediate temporary dentures will be discarded entirely and a new set of permanent dentures will be made. Multiple office visits will be needed to make your permanent dentures.

(over)

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IMMEDIATE TEMPORARY DENTURES

The dentist will discuss both options in Phase II with you at the appropriate time. The two of you then will determine which option is best for you. The cost for Phase II is as follows:

Upper and lower hard
permanent liners \$ _____

- OR -

New upper and lower
permanent dentures \$ _____

Total cost for Phase II will be one of the above figures.

As before, follow-up office visits will be required and are included in the above price for Phase II.

General Comments

Many dental insurance plans only allow for one set of dentures every five years. This means that your insurer may pay for all or part of the immediate temporary dentures in Phase I, but nothing toward the permanent dentures in Phase II. *You are highly encouraged to contact your dental insurer before any treatment is started to determine the specifics of your individual plan.* Please remember that you will be responsible for all services not covered by insurance. The quoted prices are good for nine months, but are subject to change thereafter.

Agreement

I have read this document and understand that there will be separate fees for Phase I and Phase II. I agree to pay for all fees in Phase I and Phase II not covered by insurance. Interest at 18% per year will be applied to balances more than 30 days overdue. If collection efforts are needed, then I agree to pay for the reasonable costs of collection, including without limitation attorneys' fees and court costs.

I would like a copy of this form yes no

Signature

Today's Date

Witness



Update & Alert – April 9, 2013

Dear Colleague:

Here are the facts for what is believed to be the only murder-suicide, dental-malpractice case in US history.

The patient, a 48-year-old male, was a long-term tobacco chewer. The dentist tried several regimens to help curb his nicotine addiction and improve his oral health. Finally, he prescribed Chantix six times over a seven-month period. The total number of tabs consumed is unknown.

Chantix (varenicline) carries this warning on its official Pfizer web site:

"Some people have had changes in behavior, hostility, agitation, depressed mood, suicidal thoughts or actions while using CHANTIX to help them quit smoking. Some people had these symptoms when they began taking CHANTIX, and others developed them after several weeks of treatment or after stopping CHANTIX.

If you, your family, or caregiver notice agitation, hostility, depression, or changes in behavior, thinking, or mood that are not typical for you, or you develop suicidal thoughts or actions, anxiety, panic, aggression, anger, mania, abnormal sensations, hallucinations, paranoia, or confusion, stop taking CHANTIX and call your doctor right away. Also tell your doctor about any history of depression or other mental health problems before taking CHANTIX, as these symptoms may worsen while taking CHANTIX."

The dentist claimed he discussed these possibilities with the patient. His progress notes contain the drug name only. Apparently, the dental assistant could not corroborate the dentist's version of what occurred.

The patient fatally stabbed his teenage son, and then used the same knife to take his life. The widow filed a wrongful death lawsuit against the dentist and others, claiming that her husband would not have performed these heinous acts if the dentist had either not prescribed Chantix or monitored its effect over the seven-month period. The patient apparently had some preexisting psychological conditions, although the complete background is unknown.

When prescribing Chantix, Wellbutrin, Ambien, oral conscious sedation or similar drugs, your progress notes should reflect a measured discussion about the possibly lethal side effects:

Rx Chantix [dosage and amount] for tobacco cessation. No

refills. Pt denies any previous psychological issues, treatment or past/present drugs. Gave pt on-line Pfizer "Important Safety Information" and together we read the warnings. Asked and received permission to include spouse in this discussion. Emailed "Important Safety Information" to [spouse's name] at [email address]. [DDS/asst initials]

Keep a copy of the on-line "Important Safety Information" warning in the chart, and the email to the spouse.

I also suggest that you add this tag line to all of your computer prescription templates: "Dr. X strongly suggests that you use a single pharmacy to fill all of your prescriptions from any health care provider. With this information, your pharmacist can accurately cross-reference all medications and warn you where appropriate."

This is just one example of the charting best practices my [Ideal Charting for General Dentists](#) system reinforces. Please visit my website - TheDentalAdvocate.com - to learn more about the insight and value we strive to deliver for our subscribers.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Towner". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.