



Norwalk Dental Arts, P.C.

Aesthetic
Diagnostic
Implants
Preventive
Restorative
TMJ Therapy

Prosthodontist

John J. Corino, DMD, MS

Consent for Immediate & Complete Dentures

Time Frame

I understand that at least 6 – 8 appointments will be required to fabricate my dentures, starting with the first appointment to make diagnostic models. If there has been recent tooth extractions, I understand that denture fabrication cannot begin until a minimum of 12 weeks following tooth removal to allow for adequate healing time of the surgery sites. Additional appointments may be necessary if denture relines or try-ins are required.

Possible Delays

I am aware that there may be delays in the fabrication and delivery of my dentures due to:

- The need for additional healing time due to my own individual healing response.
- The need for additional surgeries, (i.e. alveoplasty and tuberosity procedures), which will require additional healing time.
- Laboratory delays.
- Scheduling appointments with other specialists' so placement and aftercare is coordinated.
- Making sure dental treatments provided by other specialists' are completely healed and meet our requirements for prosthetic success.

Difficulties and Problems with Wearing Dentures

The difficulties and problems associated with wearing dentures have been presented to me, along with my treatment plan. These issues include, but are not limited to:

- Difficulties with speaking and/or eating
- Food collecting under my dentures
- Functional problems
- Loose dentures
- Lack of retention
- Need for adhesives
- Feeling of fullness
- Saliva production

- Certain medications may decrease the amount of saliva produced resulting in an increase in sore spots and more difficulties adapting to the new dentures.
- Some denture patients may experience an excessive amount of saliva initially but this usually returns to normal over time.
- Effect(s) of poor ridge form
- The need for future rebase and/or remakes of either the immediate or the conventional dentures.

Immediate Dentures

I have been provided written information about immediate dentures and understand:

- Immediate dentures are transitional dentures and must be relined while healing. After healing is complete, (usually 3 – 6 months), the denture will either need to be rebased or remade.
- Minor adjustments and soft tissue relines following the placement of the immediate dentures are included for 4 months following insertion.
- **Additional fees are required for: soft tissue relines after 4 months from initial denture placement, laboratory rebases that replace all the pink acrylic with new pink acrylic and require 72 hours in the laboratory and if required, a new set of dentures.**

Immediate Dentures vs. Conventional Dentures

The only benefit of the immediate denture is you are never without teeth. With existing teeth in the way, we never get to see how you look with your new smile, how you speak and laugh, how you chew. In addition, we don't know how you are going to heal which means the foundation of the dentures, your gums and bone is unstable. Immediate dentures are transitional dentures. We will know in 3 months whether or not we are keeping them, which would require rebasing them or if fabricating an entire new set from scratch is necessary.

Fabrication of conventional dentures is usually delayed a minimum of 12 weeks after the removal of all remaining teeth. I understand that the advantages of delayed denture fabrication (conventional dentures) are:

- Rebasing and remakes may not be required as soon as with immediate dentures.
- There are generally fewer adjustments as compared to immediate dentures.
- The fee for a conventional denture is lower than for an immediate denture.

Denture Relines, Rebases and Remakes

- **Denture Relines** are soft tissue conditioners, with the consistency of a dense jam, that are placed inside the denture and used during the healing phase of treatment immediately following the dental extraction appointment. They are used like Band-Aids for 12 weeks to cushion the forces of chewing on the tender surgical sites. They are not a permanent fix and if left longer than advised, they become hard, brittle and abrasive to the underlying gingival tissues. They are strictly temporary and like a Band-Aid they need to be changed on a regular basis so healing can progress and infection doesn't set in. There are no fees for relines during the 4 months following tooth extraction. **After 4 months, if relines are still being applied there is a nominal fee.**
- **Denture Rebases** replace the denture relines once healing is complete and it has been mutually decided by the Dr. and patient that the denture is going to be completed to make it the final prosthesis. The denture is needed in the laboratory for 72 hours of processing and polishing. A rebase means all the pink acrylic will be replaced with new homogeneous pink acrylic that now fits the healed, underlying gingival tissues. Rebasing does not replace the teeth or alter the position, color or shape of the existing denture teeth. Rebasing customizes the fit of the denture to your new healed oral landscape. **Denture rebasing comes with a fee and the need for the denture to be in the lab for 72 hours.**
- **Denture Remakes** mean the immediate denture doesn't meet the expectations of the Dr. and/or patient and needs to be fabricated from scratch. This is determined somewhere in the timeframe of a minimum of 12 weeks to 6 months from the initial extractions. At the 6 months period we are either going to rebase the immediate denture or start the fabrication of a new denture. **Denture remakes come with a fee and take usually 4 – 6 appointments to complete.**

Benefits of Longer Healing Time for Denture Wearers

A longer healing time after tooth extraction and before denture fabrication starts is preferable. Longer than 12 weeks is the preferred time. Patients who have dentures made 6 months or more following tooth loss rarely need rebases or remakes during the first year of wearing your first new dentures. However, there is no guarantee that a reline, rebase or remake of the denture will not be required due to continued bone resorption. I understand that:

- I will be charged for a reline and/or subsequent rebase and possible remake when it is required due to the continued physiologic bone resorption of the ridge.
- The average denture usually requires a laboratory rebase or remake at least once every 4 – 5 years due to functional wear and/or continued bone resorption.
- **I have been informed that this bone resorption will continue throughout my lifetime making subsequent denture construction more difficult, less satisfying, and less comfortable for me than my previous denture experience.**

Patient Expectations for Dentures

- I cannot guarantee a patient will be able to successfully and comfortably wear a well constructed denture. Our pledge to you is to do the best job possible given the oral condition that exists in your mouth.
- I have been told that **dentures should not be considered a replacement for teeth, but a replacement for no teeth.** I am aware that dentures are not real teeth. I am also aware that at best, I will end up with about 15 – 20% chewing efficiency as compared to my natural teeth.
- I understand that after adjustments are completed, I should return to the office for a yearly evaluation, cleaning and polish of my dentures. There will be a fee for this visit.

PATIENT CONSENT

I have been fully informed of the fees and problems associated with immediate and complete dentures, the alternative treatments available, and the necessity for follow-up care. I have had an opportunity to ask any questions I may have in connection with the treatment and fees and to discuss my concerns with the Dr. and their staff. After thorough consideration, I consent to denture fabrication as presented to me during the consultation and in the treatment plan presentation.

I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THIS DOCUMENT.

DATE

PATIENT

WITNESS