

Community Oral Health Service STAINLESS STEEL CROWNS

The WDHB would like to acknowledge the Auckland Regional Dental Service as the source of this fact sheet.



What is a stainless steel crown?

These crowns are made with a combination of different metals. These are fitted on back baby (primary) teeth to protect them from decay and breakage.

When is a stainless steel crown placed?

Stainless steel crowns are placed on baby teeth which are weakened due to decay or other reasons. They are strong and should last until the baby tooth naturally becomes loose and falls out.



How is a stainless steel crown placed?

To make the crown fit, the tooth may be trimmed slightly. The crown is fitted over the tooth and glued (cemented) on with a special cement material.



Important to note

Stainless steel crowns are not tooth coloured and they are easily noticeable in a child's mouth. These crowns contain nickel-chromium. If your child has a proven allergy to heavy metals, please inform your dental therapist.

For more information, please contact your dental therapist or phone 0800 TALK TEETH (0800 825 583)

'Brush twice a day with adult strength fluoride toothpaste'



wdhb.org.nz

For more information contact the
Preschool Oral Health Facilitator's Office | 06 348 8962

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Community Oral Health Service PULPOTOMY IN BABY TEETH

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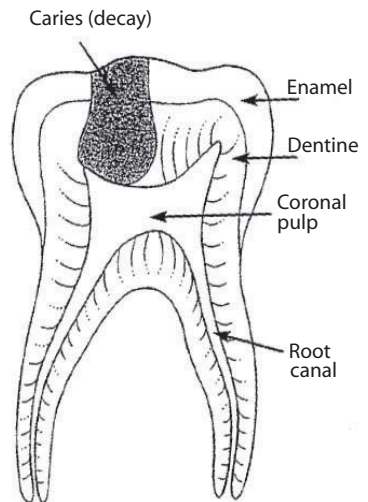


What is a pulpotomy?

A pulpotomy consists of removal of the infected nerve (pulpal tissue) from within the crown part of the tooth (the visible portion of the tooth above the gum) leaving intact the healthy nerve in the roots of the tooth.

When is a pulpotomy done?

Pulpotomy is done in children when the nerve in the crown part of the tooth has become infected due to deep decay or a crack in the tooth. If left untreated, infection may spread to the roots and cause further damage resulting in more pain and loss of tooth. When all the nerve in the crown and root of the tooth is infected pulpotomy is not suitable and your dental therapist will suggest alternative treatments.



How is a pulpotomy done?

An x-ray will be taken to assess the condition of the tooth. The tooth will be numbed (with local anaesthesia) and decayed tissue will be removed from the tooth to gain access to the nerve (pulp). The cavity will be filled and in most cases a crown (stainless steel) will be placed to protect the tooth from fracture.

Post-operative care

Your child's gum may be sore in the area for a few days. In the case of severe pain and/or swelling contact your dental therapist.

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