

## Nerve Treatment; Pulpotomy or Pulpectomy

### **Pulpotomy and Stainless Steel Crowns (SSC) for back molar teeth with larger holes involving nerves in an attempt to save the teeth**

Risk of non-treatment/delay treatment:  
Decay holes become deeper and bigger.  
Decay (bacteria) progress further into the roots and surrounding bones; teeth continue to deteriorate beyond repair, dental pain, dental abscess, facial infection needing emergency attention.

**Our dentists have shown you the Pulpotomy procedure and stainless steel crowns model (if not, please inform us)**

### **What you need to know about Pulpotomy for back molar teeth**

- Pulpotomy is the procedure to remove the infected top half of the nerve and preserving the remaining nerve in the roots of the teeth.
- The success rate of this treatment is approximately 70% (about 7 in 10 cases are successful)
- Teeth with pulpotomy treatment must be covered with stainless steel crown (SSC) to prevent any bacteria from re-entering the teeth (please see separate sheet on SSC)
- If the treating dentist determines that the success of pulpotomy is poor, then the tooth will be extracted.
- Very rarely, some children may have an allergic reaction to the ingredients of the materials.
- The pulpotomy treated teeth may shed earlier or later than an untreated tooth.
- Pulpotomy treated teeth might later become re-infected (which is not possible to avoid) needing extraction. Infection comes in the form of dental abscess, pain or even facial infection, when these happen, the teeth need to be extracted and antibiotics will be required.

- Your child may require another general anaesthetic visit to have the teeth extracted.
- ### **Pulpectomy and Stainless steel crowns (SSC) for back molar teeth with advanced holes involving nerves in and attempt to save the teeth**

**Our dentists have shown you a Pulpectomy procedure and stainless steel crowns model (if not please inform us)**

**Risk of non-treatment/delay treatment: same as above**

### **What you need to know about Pulpectomy and stainless steel crowns for back molar teeth:**

- Pulpectomy is a complete removal of the nerves of the tooth, the root canal is cleaned and a medicinal filling is placed into the roots of the tooth.
- Teeth with pulpectomy treatment must be covered with SSC to ensure no bacteria can re-enter the tooth (Please see separate information sheet on SSC)
- Pulpectomy success rate is approximately 50% or less
- If the treating dentist determines that the success of pulpotomy is poor, then the tooth will be extracted.
- Pulpectomy treatment carries a small risk of damaging the succeeding adult teeth in some way.
- Very rarely, some children may have an allergic reaction to the ingredients of the material.
- The pulpectomy treated teeth may shed earlier or later than an untreated tooth.
- Pulpectomy treated teeth might later become re-infected (which is not possible to avoid) needing extraction.
- Your child may require another general anaesthetic visit to have the teeth extracted.

