

## Pit and Fissure Sealant Information

We want all of our patients and their parents who receive dental sealants to have the right information on how to care for dental sealants and what the benefits are of dental sealants.

Sealants are a plastic resin that is flowed into and bonded to the natural grooves that occur on the chewing surfaces of the back primary and permanent teeth. Sealing the grooves of a back tooth is a procedure to prevent dental decay from occurring in the pits and fissures in the chewing surface of a back tooth.

Sealants do not protect the smooth surfaces of teeth including the surfaces between teeth. **Flossing is the only way to clean between the teeth and to prevent tooth decay between teeth.**

Sealants have been clinically shown to last up to 9 years and seal the grooves of teeth where around 60% of all tooth decay begins.

As a service to our patients, as long as our patients come back for their 6-month preventive re-care visits on a consistent basis, we will repair any of the sealants we placed on their teeth for no additional fee.

In order to give your child's sealant, the longest possible life span, please have your child avoid the following foods: ice or ice cubes, hard candies, taffy, caramels, and jaw breakers.

Your child's sealants will be evaluated at each re-care visit to make sure that they are intact and in no need of repair.

If you have any questions or concerns about sealants, please do not hesitate to ask our team.