ZIRCONIA CROWNS

Zirconia Crowns are a popular and durable option for restoring primary (baby) teeth, particularly for their aesthetic appearance. However, there are some important considerations and limitations when using zirconia crowns in children's dental treatments. Here's what you need to know:

Placement on Upper Baby Molars
Zirconia crowns will not be placed on the last upper baby molars. If your child requires a crown on these teeth, a Stainless Steel Crown will be used instead. Zirconia Crowns can be placed on all lower baby molars.





Blue Separators for Posterior Teeth
For zirconia crowns placed on the posterior (back) teeth, blue separators are required to be inserted 1 week prior to the general anaesthetic appointment. This helps create space for the crown to fit properly. The separators are placed in the mouth using a flossing action, and once in place, your child will feel like they have food stuck between their teeth. This sensation can cause some discomfort, but it can typically be managed with Panadol. Any discomfort should subside within 24 hours. There is no charge for this appointment.



Numbering on the Inside of the Crown
Zirconia crowns feature a numbering system printed on the inside of the crown. This is a standard part of the manufacturing process and does not indicate a defect or issue with the crown itself.



Technique Sensitivity
The placement of zirconia crowns is highly technique-sensitive. These crowns require precise preparation, and more tooth structure needs to be removed compared to stainless steel crowns. This is an important consideration when deciding if zirconia crowns are the right choice for your child's treatment.

Potential for Black Marks
Over time, black marks may appear on zirconia crowns, especially if the child grinds their teeth (bruxism). These marks can also develop if the opposing tooth has a stainless steel crown, as the metal can cause abrasion on the zirconia surface. While this is a common occurrence, it does not affect the function or integrity of the crown.

Specialist Discretion and Criteria
Zirconia crowns are rarely used by paediatric dentists on primary molars, as there are often more suitable alternatives for many cases. However, Kids Dental and My Braces does offer zirconia crowns on baby molars, but only when specific criteria are met. The decision to proceed with zirconia crowns will be at the discretion of the specialist, based on the child's individual needs and the condition of the tooth.

If you have any questions or concerns about whether zirconia crowns are the right option for your child, please feel free to contact our office on 0738315677. We are happy to discuss the available options and help you make the best decision for your child's dental health.