



WINTERHOLLER DENTISTRY
IMPLANTS | COSMETIC | TMJ | ORTHODONTICS

INFORMED CONSENT

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF COMMON RISKS AND/OR COMPLICATIONS, WHICH MAY OCCUR DURING AND/OR AFTER DENTAL TREATMENT AND/OR DENTAL SURGERY. THIS LIST HAS NOT ITEMIZED EVERY POSSIBLE RISK AND THE PATIENT OR GUARDIAN IS HEREBY ADVISED TO SEEK A SECOND OPINION REGARDING ANY DENTAL QUESTION THAT YOU MAY HAVE CONCERNING THE TREATMENT OF YOURSELF OR YOUR DEPENDANT. YOU SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT SINCE DENTISTRY IS NOT AN EXACT SCIENCE. NO SPECIFIC RESULT IS PROMISED, OR GUARANTEED ALTHOUGH THE STAFF AT WINTERHOLLER DENTISTRY DOES NOT EXPECT YOU TO SUFFER UNNECESSARY COMPLICATIONS, YOU ARE HEREBY ADVISED THAT IT IS A POSSIBILITY. YOUR SIGNATURE ON THIS FORM IMPLIES THAT YOU UNDERSTAND, TO THE BEST OF YOUR ABILITY, AND ACCEPT THE RISKS AND/OR COMPLICATIONS WHICH MAY OCCUR DURING YOUR DENTAL TREATMENT. YOU ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE RISKS HAVE BEEN ADEQUATELY EXPLAINED TO YOU IN A MANNER WHICH YOU UNDERSTAND, AND THAT YOU REALIZE THE FOLLOWING LIST DOES NOT REPRESENT A COMPLETE EXPLANATION OF EVERY RISK YOU MAY ENCOUNTER IN THIS OR ANY OTHER DENTAL OFFICE.

1. It is our standard to require a full mouth set of complete x-rays every 3-5 years for patients seen more than once. We also require bitewing x-rays to be taken on an annual basis for adults and semi-annual bitewings for children under the age of twenty.
2. X-rays are a form of radiation and should be avoided during pregnancy. If you ever visit the office while pregnant or suspicious of pregnancy, it is YOUR responsibility to notify Winterholler Dentistry and refuse x-rays. Since all dental procedures are diagnosed and treated with the aid of x-rays, you must understand that we will require you to receive x-rays for most of the procedures that we provide. A lead apron has been provided for your use and protection.
3. A routine injection may injure or sever a nerve, leaving you with long term or permanent anesthesia or permanent paresthesia. A routine injection may also puncture a blood vessel, causing hemorrhage or hematoma. If this occurs call this office. Further treatment may be necessary from Winterholler Dentistry or a dentist of their choice.
4. The administration of local anesthetic will make you numb for 1-6 hours. You should bite carefully to prevent from injuring yourself at this time. It will also leave you with soreness or discomfort at that injection site from several minutes to several days. If this is unacceptable, then you should request that minor treatment be performed without anesthetic, or reschedule your appointment for a time when this discomfort will not be a problem.
5. Extraction of an erupted tooth or a root tip may result in the same symptoms as described in item 3. Extraction of an upper tooth may result in loss of all or part of the tooth into the sinus cavity requiring further surgery by Winterholler Dentistry or a dentist of their choice. If it is possible for an upper tooth to be successfully extracted while still opening an oral/antral fistula into a sinus. If your sinus is exposed, you will likely require further surgery by Winterholler Dentistry or a dentist of their choice. In the event either of these surgical procedures is required you should avoid sucking on a straw or blowing up balloons for at least 6-8 weeks. If you feel unexplained air pressure leaking between your mouth and your sinuses after an upper extraction you are expected to call the office.
6. An extraction of an ankylosed tooth is ALMOST NEVER predictable and ALMOST ALWAYS requires the removal of a considerable amount of surrounding bone. Usually, such a large socket is NEVER completely filled back in with new and may result in noticeable, permanent bone loss with an accompanied weakening of that facial bone. Even if an extraction is routine, it leaves a large socket and may render the bone more susceptible to fracture for 6-12 months or perhaps permanently. YOU are expected to take every precaution to prevent additional trauma to this area. The instruments and/or forces used to extract a tooth, the bone, a nearby tooth or adjacent restoration, requiring additional treatment by Winterholler Dentistry or a dentist of their choice.
7. Teeth are often filled or crowned with gold, silver, or other substances, which conduct hot, cold, and other stimuli extremely well. Most teeth are sensitive for 3 days to 3 weeks; however some teeth are sensitive much longer or perhaps permanently. If your sensitivity persists, you will likely require pulpal treatment or root canal therapy by Winterholler Dentistry or a dentist of their choice. This sort of sensitivity generally results from large carious lesions, large restorations, large immature pulpal, hairline cracks or reduction for fixed prosthetics; but HAS ALSO BEEN SHOWN TO OCCUR FOR NO KNOWN REASON.
8. Teeth that are crowded are often teeth, which have fractured or have been repeatedly filled. Even a perfectly healthy tooth must be substantially reduced to receive a crown. This is particularly true with tipped, crooked, or mal-occluded teeth. This reduction may cause sensitivity and can lead to future pulpal treatment or root canal therapy. Teeth which have been crowned NEVER have perfect margins. As you age or your gingival tissue recedes, the margin is exposed and may cause the tooth to be more sensitive. In some instances, the pulp must be treated and/or the crown replaced. Porcelain behaves like glass and is

easily fractured by hard foods or a blow to the mouth. Some long fixed bridges flex enough to fracture the porcelain covering. Fractured porcelain prosthetics are seldom repairable. Winterholler Dentistry does not accept responsibility for fractured porcelain since it is out of their control. The patient, is however, advised that the metal jacket coping adequately protects the tooth with or without the porcelain covering.

9. Pupal treatment or root canal therapy involves the placement of tiny fragile instruments into a tiny, often restricted canal. These instruments can and do occasionally fracture inside the tooth. If this occurs, your attending dentist at Winterholler Dentistry may attempt to remove the instrument or refer you to an endodontist to have it removed. If it is not or cannot be retrieved, we will advise you of its presence. In many cases, the fractured piece actually seals the canal, so no further treatment is needed. While fitting a root canal it is possible to extrude gutta percha or root canal cement beyond the apex of the tooth. Even during root canal, it is possible for painful symptoms to persist. If symptoms are still not relieved, then it is likely that the tooth will require and extraction.
10. Removable dentures and partial dentures are plastic and/or metal appliances that at best are uncomfortable, clumsy and feel loose. Because they are not cemented into place, they rub your gingival tissue and cause frequent sore spots. Clasps on partial dentures rub on adjacent teeth and cause scarring and lateral torque. You are advised to keep these appliances as clean as possible and have them examined regularly in this office.
11. Crowns, fixed bridges, fillings, dentures, root canals and most other dental treatments are dentist's attempt to correct or prevent dental disease. These forms of treatment are not intended to be a substitute for healthy teeth but rather a substitute for unhealthy and/or missing teeth. Dental treatment is not always successful at first. Some teeth or appliances need to be retreated or treated differently and SOME DO NOT RESPOND FAVORABLY TO ANY TREATMENT and are eventually extracted. Dental treatment may succeed at first and then suffer recurrent caries, fractures, abscesses or pain in the future. You should visit this office no less than one per year to give Winterholler Dentistry the greatest possibility of serving you. You are encouraged to call if you ever have questions or complaints about your treatment. You will find the staff eager to make you comfortable.
12. Some patients present to the dental office with compromising health conditions. A history of A.I.D.S., heart disease, rheumatic fever, bleeding disorders, liver disease, hepatitis, kidney disease, diabetes, lung disease, or any allergy of sensitivity to penicillin, erythromycin, codeine, Percodan, Hycodaphe, aspirin, Tylenol, EPI, xylocaine, Carbocaine, or Novocaine, may qualify you as a unjustifiable risk for this office. YOU are expected to circle any of the above conditions which you are EVEN SUSPECTED of having and notify Winterholler Dentistry in person. FAILURE TO DO SO COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH. If you have a history of heart disease or other serious ailment, you will be required to have your physician consult with Winterholler Dentistry to determine whether or not you can be safely treated in this office. Even when precautions are taken it is possible that you could suffer an exacerbation of your condition and/or any of its related complications.
13. Prescribing medications is routine in a dental practice. Antibiotics are prescribed for the control of infection; narcotic and non-narcotic analgesics are prescribed for the control of pain. Sedative/ hypnotics are sometimes prescribed for the control of anxiety. Fluoride tablets and rinses are prescribed for the caries reduction. MANY OF THE PRESCRIPTIONS WRITTEN IN THE OFFICE CAN AND DO REACT UNFAVORABLY WITH MANY OTHER MEDICATIONS. If you are taking any other medications at the time you are offered a prescription, you are expected to remind Winterholler Dentistry of all of the medications you are using. If you are using or abusing controlled substances, marijuana, narcotics or any other drugs, you are expected to give this information to Winterholler Dentistry each time you receive a prescription from this office so that we may substitute the medication or alter its dosage appropriately. FAILURE TO DO SO COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH. Antibiotics often render birth control pills ineffective. Appropriate precautions must be taken during antibiotic therapy.

MEDIATION/ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

Any claim or controversy between the patient and dentist concerning the care and treatment rendering by the dentist shall be resolved by mediation or arbitration according to the rules of Western Mediation. Any claims or controversy shall be submitted to non binding mediation. If the claim or controversy is not resolved to satisfaction of both parties through the mediation process, it will be submitted to binding arbitration. The parties shall share cost for mediations and/or arbitration services equally.

PLEASE PRINT NAMES OF ALL FAMILY MEMBERS _____
TREATMENT _____

I DO HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE BEEN INFORMED, TO MY SATISFACTION, OF THE RISKS AND/OR COMPLICATIONS OF DENTAL TREATMENT WHICH WINTERHOLLER DENTISTRY AND/OR ASSOCIATES IS TO PROVIDE FOR ME (OR MY DEPENDENT). I ALSO AGREE TO THE ARBITRATION/MEDIATION AGREEMENT IN THIS DOCUMENT.

Signature of Patient or Guardian: _____ Date: _____