

The Hall Technique

Sealing tooth decay with stainless steel crowns



What is a stainless steel crown?

Stainless steel crowns (**SSC**) are metal caps used to restore badly decayed baby (primary) teeth. SSC's are:

- Are the same size and shape as a tooth
- Typically last the life of the tooth
- Are easy to clean
- Contain only safe metals
- Cover and protect the entire tooth

What is the Hall Technique?

The Hall Technique is a process of applying a SSC on a baby tooth. The Hall Technique seals decay and helps stop it from progressing. The tooth does not need to be made numb, does not need to be drilled, and the process only takes a few minutes.



Will crowning a tooth stop the decay?

A Hall Technique crown covers and protects all of the tooth surfaces. The crown seals any tooth decay and helps stop it from progressing.

If the body is unable to fight off the bacteria inside the tooth, there is still a chance that an infection can occur. It is recommended that **Silver Diamine Fluoride** be placed prior to the placement of the SSC to help kill the bacteria.

How is it applied?

Separators (elastic bands) are placed about 1 week prior to the appointment to help separate the teeth. A SSC is sized and fitted on the tooth and child helps to finish cementing the SSC by biting down on it.



What happens afterwards?

After a Hall Technique crown is placed, your child may find that biting feels different. This feeling will return to normal in a few days. Their gums may also feel tight at first but this will go away quickly.

Your child's gum may look blue around the tooth with the SSC. This is just the color of the metal sitting under the gum. It is important that your child still brushes their teeth.

Avoid giving your child sticky foods as they may pull the crown off the tooth.

How can I help my child take better of their teeth?

Make sure your child brushes their teeth twice a day with a fluoride toothpaste, flosses at night, and has regular dental check-ups.

Try to have your child minimize snacking between meals, cut down on the amount of sugar in their diet, and drink more water and milk instead of juice and soda.

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