

Important information regarding Porcelain Veneers

- During the preparation of the teeth some of the tooth-structure protecting the nerve inside the tooth will be removed. It is possible that you might experience increased sensitivity to heat or cold after the preparation and the cementation of the veneers. This sensitivity is usually of a passing nature.
- On very rare occasions, the nerve in a tooth might suffer irreversible damage, in which case the nerve will have to be removed (root canal treatment).
- After the preparation of the teeth temporary veneers will be fitted on your teeth. These are not secured with very strong cement, as they have to be removed a few weeks later. The possibility therefore exists that the temporary restorations might come loose. Usually it is easy to replace, but the teeth might be sensitive if any temporary restoration comes loose.
- The veneers are made from porcelain, which cannot be bleached. If you are considering having your teeth bleached, we should do so before doing the veneers, and matching the shade of the veneers to the rest of your teeth.
- As most people grind their teeth in their sleep, a biteplate must be worn over the veneers when you go to sleep, to protect the porcelain from fracture when you grind your teeth at night.
- The life-span of crowns or veneers on front teeth varies from 7-15 years, depending on your hygiene procedures. It is normal for the gums to recede as you get older, and after a number of years the margin of the veneers become exposed. Although the veneers will still be functional, the appearance might not be to your liking anymore, and they will have to be replaced.
- Your teeth tend to change appearance as you get older (they become darker, wear, and develop small cracks). The porcelain does not undergo these changes, and the veneers then appear unnatural, and will have to be replaced.
- The life-span of the veneers will depend on how well you clean your teeth. Vigorous brushing might lead to recession of the gum, while insufficient cleaning can lead to decay or discoloration on the margins. You will be instructed on how to clean carefully, and you would need to attend regular review appointments with both the oral hygienist and the dentist.