

EXPOSING IMPACTED TEETH

When there are teeth that are impacted, this means that the tooth is “stuck” and will not be able to erupt into its ideal position on its own. Sometimes an oral surgeon will have to surgically bond a button and chain to the impacted tooth in order to successfully bring the tooth into its optimal position.

Depending on the positioning of the impacted tooth, Dr. Jensen is able to do an in-office lasering appointment to expose the tooth and place a bracket on it at the same time.

Steps to Exposing an Impacted Tooth



-Usually a tooth will be exposed after orthodontic treatment has started and enough space for the impacted tooth has been made for it to easily erupt into position following the exposure appointment.

-Your appointment will last approximately 1 hour. To prevent discomfort during your appointment it is normal for Dr. Jensen to administer a local anesthetic. Please let us know if you have ever had any reaction to any types of anesthesia/anesthetic prior to your appointment.



-You should not feel anything after the anesthetic starts to work and Dr. Frost begins the laser treatment. The laser treatment lasts between 5-10 minutes.

-If the exposed tooth cannot be easily placed into your orthodontic wire, it will be secured to the wire with a piece of elastic thread to help the tooth move into ideal positioning.

Post-Exposure Care

-Keep the area clean as directed by using the special mouthwash given to you by your clinical assistant.

-Soreness around the exposed area is expected. Take over the counter pain medication as needed and keep the area as clean as possible.

-You will be seen approximately 2 weeks after your appointment for a follow-up appointment. Please let your clinical assistant know of any continued discomfort at this time.



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