

Re: Should the good filling be taken out...

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From: Dr Steve (*nospam_at_home.net*)

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"joe" <johnaroberts@gmail.com> wrote in message
>
> *snip*
>
> *Having pain from only 10% or %5 of bites doesn't sound like a common*
> *problem....and why would clenching have anything to do with it if it*
> *all started from one point in time...biting down hard on a bone 18*
> *months ago.*

Cracked tooth only hurts when you spread the fractured peice away from the bulk of the tooth. There could (depending on where the crack is and how the teeth are shaped) be only one path of movement, and you have to get the force vector to go in that direction. Chewing does NOT break teeth! The force of actual tooth contact during chewing is very light. At night while sleeping, you can spend hours squeezing and isometrically grinding with over 600 psi. Usually, the patient will initiate the crack while clenching and isometrically grainding during sleep. Then, many times, the patient will be eating something rather soft, *which encourages the mouth to chew faster with more force*, and the final insult will occur with this relatively light force. We dentists see this all the time. If the fracture goes through the wrong place, you could end up needing a root canal procedure [right George?], or if the fracture extends down into the root, you end up losing the tooth.

Listen carefully,,,,,, the filling needs to come out and the inside of the tooth studied under high magnification. If it has been 18 months already, you could be in big trouble very soon if you procrastinate any longer. You might already have waited too long.

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~+---+---+---+---+---+---
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This posting is intended for informational or conversational purposes only. Always seek the opinion of a licensed dental professional before acting on the advice or opinion expressed here. Only a dentist who has examined you in person can diagnose your problems and make decisions which will affect your health.

sci.med.dentistry: Re: Should the good filling be taken out...

.....
> Steven Fawks <tuthjockey@earthlink.net> wrote in message
> news:<00rmd.28002\$KJ6.25787@newsread1.news.pas.earthlink.net>...
>> This is a very common problem. It isn't always simple to fix (as you're
>> finding out).
>>
>> *Sounds like* a cracked tooth. Could be just sore from clenching during
>> sleep. Can't tell over the internet. Can't always tell when you're
>> sitting in the chair!
>>
>> I talk the case over with the patient and start by checking the
>> occlusion and often fitting the patient with an NTI to prevent any
>> night time clenching.
>>
>> If pain goes away, you're done. If not.....
>>
>> Take out old filling and inspect for cracks. Bond in new filling. If
>> cracks are found, moving on to a crown is my next step. If the biting
>> problems are improved with the temporary crown in place (a little cold
>> sensitivity isn't abnormal at this stage), I'll cement the permanent
>> crown. Quit there.
>>
>> If the tooth is worse with the temporary crown in place, I'll do a root
>> canal before cementing the crown.
>>
>> Some dentists jump right to the root canal and crown and usually get rid
>> of the pain. To me, that is often unnecessary as long as the patient
>> understands the steps that I take to do the least amount of work and
>> still solve the problem.
>>
>> Best wishes,
>> Fawks
>>
>> wierdtooth wrote:
>>
>> > About 18 months ago I bit down very hard on a bone and could've sworn
>> > I cracked a tooth...but dentists saw no crack. (it's 2nd tooth from
>> > the back, on the top) For a month after that, it was very sensitive
>> > to cold (but only for a few seconds). Xrays show nothing abnormal,
>> > and a very good filling (although some, but not all, say they see a
>> > "crack line" on the top surface but they cannot see how far down it
>> > goes...no dentists say that "crackline". I do have some gum erosion,
>> > but I doubt that's related to the problem/pain below.
>> >
>> > Anyway, about 6 months ago, this started: About one in ten bites
>> > (depending on the angle or the shape of the food, which i can never
>> > identify) causes ALOT of sharp pain...feels like something "deep" but
>> > i cannot really explain it...just feels like "oh i just cracked a
>> > tooth". Then the pain goes away fairly quickly. I can usually
>> > chew anything and it's fine, just about one in ten bites cause that
>> > problem. Never any pain at any other time.
>> >
>> > Although I should add: for a 3-week period a few months ago, that
>> > tooth was very sensitive to cold liquid for maybe 6 seconds (just like
>> > it was about 18 months ago, initially) and also to chewing in
>> > general...but it was mainly pain from cold liquid. Then the
>> > cold-pain went away after a few weeks...the one-in-ten-bite pain is
>> > here and always will be it seems. I can live with it...it really
>> > doesn't bother me (not enough to want to have major dental work unless
>> > I need it)...i just chew more cautiously. But i want to prevent any
>> > future problems.
>> >

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>> > So I saw about 5 dentists last month when I was visiting
>> > Bangkok...some of the best dental centers (and very low cost for
>> > these consultations, sometimes free)...All of them spent quite a bit
>> > of time examining, questioning, looking at xrays...testing my bite
>> > and putting cold water on my tooth...but they often could not elicit
>> > pain from the tooth...it's usually painful when I bite a certain way
>> > that they could not always replicate...and the cold water problem is
>> > from SWISHING the water in my mouth...not from them dropping cold
>> > water drops. I'm going back there soon but I'm unsure of whether I
>> > should have the filling taken out. There was not alot of agreement on
>> > what should be done among the different dentists. But none of them
>> > saw any problems...with the eye or xrays (taken a few times over the
>> > past 18 months).
>> >
>> > One dentist said to try a temp. crown and see what happens. One
>> > dentist said that would not be useful at all.
>> > A crown dentist said he thinks the pain is coming from one side of the
>> > tooth, so he quickly added a composite filling onto the side...it
>> > didn't help.
>> > Two endodontists said probably need root canal, but they need to take
>> > out the filling and see whats there. One of them said maybe the nerve
>> > is exposed just below the filling.
>> > A periodontist (who I trust the most and have used him for my
>> > root-plane-scalings over the past 2 years) said the nerve would not be
>> > exposed below my filling, but that if the pain continues the filling
>> > should be taken out to examine...then maybe root canal.
>> >
>> > Well, he said that while i was still having the cold pain last month.
>> > But it went away a few weeks ago...Of course, I'm left with the one in
>> > ten bite pain. He said (last year, when I was not having cold pain)
>> > that one-in-ten types of pain usually would not warrant taking out a
>> > good filling....maybe wait till??...something gets worse?...not
>> > sure.
>> >
>> > So, what should be done..have them take out the filling..or just live
>> > it with it and see if it goes away (no, the one-in-ten pain
>> > won't)...or, maybe there is a crack that noone sees (cracks can't be
>> > seen easily from xrays, right?), and maybe its dangerous?. I'd like
>> > to take care of this while i'm in thailand for the next month...i
>> > can't afford US dental care.
>> > Also, WHY would a temp crown NOT be a helpful diagnostic. One
>> > dentist said if there is a crack, a temp crown wouldn't make any
>> > difference.