

## Sealants

### What is a sealant?

-Sealants are a thin coating painted on the chewing surfaces of teeth – usually the back teeth. The painted on sealant quickly bonds into the depressions and grooves of the teeth forming a protective shield over the enamel of each tooth.

### Why get sealants?

-Although brushing and flossing can remove food and plaque from the smooth surfaces of your child's teeth, they cannot always get into all the nooks and crannies of the back teeth to remove the debris and plaque. Sealants protect these vulnerable areas from tooth decay by "sealing out" plaque and food.

-Sealants have been clinically proven to be one of the most effective methods of preventing tooth decay. Effectiveness is further increased by retention and maintenance of the sealant.

### How are sealants applied?

-First the teeth that are to be sealed are thoroughly cleaned and isolated with a "rain coat" to keep them dry.

-An acidic liquid is put on the chewing surfaces of the teeth to roughen them up, which helps the sealant bond to the teeth.

-The teeth are then rinsed and dried.

-Sealant is then painted onto the tooth enamel and hardened with our special curing light.

For More Information

American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

<http://www.aapd.org/publications/brochures/sealants.asp>

Our sealants are guaranteed, provided that your child remains current with his or her six month check-up so that the sealant can be monitored and maintained properly. It also is recommended that your child refrain from chewing ice or hard candies.

Should the sealant fail and a restorative procedure become necessary, a full credit for the cost of the sealant will be allowed toward the cost of the restorative procedure. If, for any reason, the sealant would need to be replaced, this will be done with no charge to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ has received sealant application(s) on tooth **number**(s)  
\_\_\_\_\_.

(Patient Name)

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

(Parent or Legal Guardian)