



Joy John, DMD  
Kierstin Kerr, DMD  
Amanda Peer, DMD  
Lauren Murphy, DMD

## WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT FILLINGS

**FACT #1:** More than 1/3 of all children by the age of five will get a cavity or have trauma to their teeth. Cavities are the number one health problem in children.

**FACT #2:** Duxbury Children's Dentistry is proud of our gentle approach to dental care. We have special techniques that have been developed with years of experience, so that most children will feel little or no discomfort with the procedures done. It is important not to mention terms that may frighten a child. If you have a young child who you are concerned may be anxious, please try to find daycare for younger siblings who cannot be left unattended while you sit with your child.

**FACT #3:** Filling appointments may need to be scheduled during school hours. The after school slots are usually booked six months prior for cleanings. Please use the cancellation list if this is of concern to you.

**FACT #4:** We offer nitrous oxide (laughing gas). This is meant to help reduce anxiety and gag reflexes. The cost of this service is \$95.00 per visit. If you believe that your child may benefit from the laughing gas, please do not give them a full meal 2 hours prior to their appointment.

**FACT #5:** We DO NOT use amalgam (silver) fillings at our office. Due to the high mercury content of this material, we have made the decision not to expose staff or patients to this compound. Often insurance companies cover less on white fillings than they would on silver. We express the utmost importance in understanding your dental coverage including deductibles, maximums, etc.

**FACT #6:** Dental insurance is structured differently than health insurance, and understanding how your insurance works will help alleviate any financial surprises with procedures your child may need. We at the office do not know the terms and benefits of each individual plan of each individual company. If your child does need restorative work, we will send out a pre-estimate to your insurance company. If your insurance company does not get the pre-estimate processed before the appointment, our office will estimate the co-pay that will still be due the day of the appointment. If you are concerned about the estimate for the appointment, it is your responsibility to contact your insurance company. Please use the attached form for reference should you need to contact them.

**FACT #7:** Co-pays are due on the date of service. A \$20 billing fee is applied if the co-pay is not received. If your child comes with a relative, or sitter please arrange for the payment to be made for the co-pay is still due. We do take payments over the phone if needed. Also, we do not get involved in divorce or custody cases regardless of the situation. The parent/person bringing the child is responsible for any co-pay due that day.

**FACT #8:** The staff at Duxbury Children's Dentistry is here to be supportive and informative. Please feel free to ask any questions that you have about your child's care. We want to help shape your child's view of the dentist into a positive one! When your children are happy... we are happy!