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Temporomandibular Joint Disorders
Fellow: American Academy of Craniofacial Pain
International College of Cranio-Mandibular Orthopedics

Consent Form

- A proper diagnosis regarding head and neck pain is very important because serious medical problems such as vascular disorders, brain tumors, cervical disc disorders, etc. can produce similar symptoms to TMJ disorders. It is important to inform our office of any change in your health history from that previously provided.
- In order to achieve a successful outcome of your treatment, it is crucial that you make a commitment to keep all scheduled appointments and to remain in treatment until you are medically stationary. It has been our experience that most patients will achieve medical stability in 4-6 months from the time treatment begins.
- Length of treatment may vary according to the complexity of your condition. Treatment times, therefore, may vary from estimates. Although most conditions respond well to treatment, general health, stress, degree of tissue injury, posture, age, work habits, bite relationship, etc., do affect the outcome, and total resolution is not always possible.
- The treatment methods we will use are based on our experience and knowledge to be the most proven, appropriate, cost-effective and conservative. However, you should be aware there is much debate in the medical-dental community regarding the best way to treat various TMJ disorders.
- If an appliance is used in your treatment, it is theoretically possible for the appliance to be swallowed or inhaled. It must be said that a swallowed appliance may have to be surgically removed, and an inhaled appliance may lead to respiratory arrest and death.
- As with any medical or dental treatment, unusual occurrences can and do happen. These possibilities could include minor tooth movement, broken or loosened teeth or dental restorations, sore mouth, periodontal problems, muscle spasms, ear pain, neck pain, etc. Any of the mentioned complications are rare, but theoretically may occur. Additional medical and dental risks that have not been mentioned may occur.
- You must always bring your splint with you for each and every appointment. Your splint will be re-evaluated in approximately six weeks from the time you receive it, and may require a change in the treatment position at that time.
- Good communication is essential to successful treatment. Please feel free to discuss any questions you have regarding your symptoms any time during therapy.

I have read or had read to me the information in this informed consent, realize the risks and limitations involved, and consent to treatment. I understand that any of my photographs, models, and x-rays may be used in scientific papers or demonstrations. *I also understand that Dr. Parker is not a contractual provider with any insurance company.*

Signature of Patient (parent or guardian) _____
Date _____