



DR J V VORSTER
MAXILLO-FACIAL & ORAL SURGEON

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ATTACHMENTS/EXPOSURES

The exposure of a tooth is the procedure where an unerupted tooth (normally a canine tooth) is exposed, and an attachment (bracket) is glued on to the surface of the crown.

A chain or wire is attached to this attachment and with the help of an elastic band, the tooth is pulled down into the mouth orthodontically over a period of 3 – 6 months.

The procedure (etching on the tooth surface) is moisture sensitive and can become detached if not treated with care.

If this happens the procedure will have to be repeated. Unfortunately this practise cannot take any responsibility for any break-offs because every attachment is tested thoroughly intra-operatively.

POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS/SYMPTOMS

1. Swelling and pain which can last for up to 5 days.
2. Apply ice packs for 3 days followed by heat packs for 2 days.
3. Slight discolouration which will subside within 5 days.
4. Use your medicine as prescribed.
5. Sutures are all self-dissolving and will dissolve within 10 – 14 days.
6. Clean thoroughly around the chain/wire. Do not pull or eat on the chain/wire.
7. See your orthodontist/dentist 14 days after the procedure for activation of the exposure.
8. If any queries, contact the surgery at the above telephone numbers.