

# THE GREAT sage






AUGUST  
2015

## DENTAL SEALANTS

### Prevent Decay

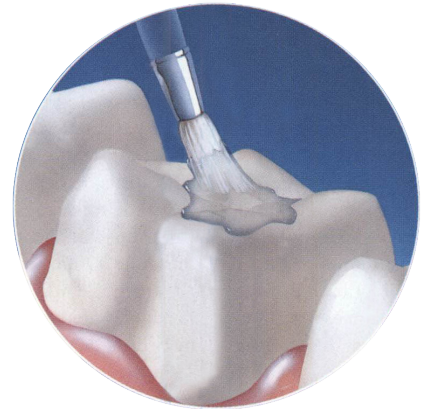
The application of systemic or topical fluoride since the early 1970's has lowered the incidence of tooth decay on the smooth surfaces of the teeth. However, about 90% of the decay found in children's teeth occurs in tooth surfaces with pits and fissures. To solve this problem, dental sealants were developed to act as a physical barrier so that cavity-causing bacteria cannot invade the pits and fissures on the chewing surfaces of back (posterior) teeth. A sealant is a plastic resin material that is usually applied to the chewing surfaces of the back teeth. This material



<i>This Month</i>	<i>How Are We Doing?</i>	<i>Back to School</i>
<p>Family fun night "Fiesta Friday". August 7 at McMurtrey aquatic center 6-9 p.m. 1325 Q St. \$4 per person; \$13 per group of four. Also Thursday Night concerts at the market place.</p>	<p>Review us on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Google Reviews</li> <li> RateADentist.com</li> <li> Yelp User Reviews</li> <li> HEALTHGRADES</li> </ul>	<p><b>Things to do before school starts:</b> One last camping trip, Get a massage (look at our back page), school supplies, go swimming, get a hair cut, and relax.</p> 

## *continued*

is bonded into the depressions and grooves (pits and fissures) of the chewing surfaces and acts as a barrier, protecting enamel from attack by plaque and/or acids. The dentist, hygienist or assistant cleans and dries the teeth to be treated, then paints a thin layer of liquid plastic material on the pits and fissures of the tooth. A blue spectrum natural light is shone on the material for a few seconds to cure the plastic. Some brands of sealants cure chemically.



After curing, the plastic becomes a hard, thin layer covering the treated portions of the tooth. Despite the incredible pressures placed on teeth during chewing each day, dental sealants often remain effective for five years or longer, although sealants do wear naturally and should be checked at regular intervals. If sealants wear or become damaged, they can be repaired or replaced simply by applying new sealant material to the worn or damaged portions. Children should receive sealants shortly after the eruption of their first permanent molars, around age 6 and again at age 12 when their second molars appear. During your child's regular dental visits, we will check the condition of the sealants and reapply them if necessary.

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## *Massage By Karen Foley*



Karen is a great resource for the start of a new school year! Great at what she does, she provides the proper care needed in Massage. Located in Bakersfield, Karen is well trusted and we are sure to believe you will have a great experience. To schedule an appointment please call (661) 304-9441