

**Patient:** Hi. Dr. Hyde?

**Dentist:** So, what's seems to be the problem today?

**Patient:** Well, I just came in for a check up and a dental cleaning.

**Dentist:** Hum. Open up. Let's take a look . . .

**Patient:** Okay. Uh . . .

**Dentist:** Hummmm. [*Humm? Uh?*] Wow! I've never seen one like THIS before. Let me try this.

**Patient:** Uhhh . . . Ouhhhh [*Man screaming in pain . . .*]

**Dentist:** Well, besides a lot of [plaque](#) buildup, there is a major [cavity](#) in one of your [wisdom teeth](#). [*I feel that.*] Hasn't this given you any trouble?

**Patient:** Well, the tooth has been bothering me, and it sometimes hurts when I drink something cold. Does it look that bad?

**Dentist:** Well, we're going to remove the [decay](#), and then we'll either put a [filling](#) in, or if the decay is [extensive](#), we can't repair it, we might have to put a [crown](#) on your tooth. Or as a last resort, we may have to [extract](#) the tooth.

**Patient:** Uh, well, that sounds painful!

**Dentist:** Don't worry. I've done this . . . once before. [*Huh?*] Nah, just relax.

**Patient:** Wait! Aren't you suppose to give me something to [dull](#) the pain?

**Dentist:** Uh, chicken. Oh yeah. I almost forgot. We can either use a [local anesthetic](#) or [nitrous oxide](#) . . . laughing gas. . . to minimize the [discomfort](#) you might feel. Or you can just grin and bear it.

**Patient:** Nah, Nah, nah! Put me under! [*I thought so.*] I can't stand pain, and I'd rather not be aware of what's going on. And, if I need a filling, can I get one that looks like my other teeth?

**Dentist:** If we can save the tooth with a filling, I recommend a high-strength silver [alloy](#) filling instead of a [porcelain](#) one. It'll probably last longer.

**Patient:** Okay, well whatever. Let's get it over with.

**Dentist:** Okay, pleasant dreams. Drill please.