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Dear Parents:

You may choose whether or not you accompany your child to the treatment room. Although we sense that some children do better without parents present, we are open to having you with your child. If you choose to be present, we suggest the following guidelines to improve chances of a positive outcome:

1. Allow us to prepare your child.
2. Be supportive of the practice's terminology.
3. Please be a **silent** observer—support your child with touches if you so choose.
  - A. This allows us to maintain communication with your child.
  - B. Children will normally listen to their parents instead of us and may not hear our guidance.
  - C. You might give incorrect or misleading information.
4. If asked to leave, be ready to immediately walk away.
  - A. Many children will try to control the situation.
  - B. "Acting out" is normal, but unacceptable during fillings.
  - C. This is intended to "short circuit" the control attempt.
  - D. We will continue to support your child at all times.
  - E. If behavior does not improve, treatment may cease and other treatment options will be discussed.

These are very important ways that you can actively help in the success of your child's visit. We are confident that all will go well and hope these guidelines will help prepare you with confidence for the upcoming appointment.