

Care and Instructions for Root Canal Therapy

Your tooth has been treated to remove infection from within and around its neighboring boney and gum housing. The infection or inflammation may render the tooth sensitive to pressure. Typically, a pain medication and, sometimes, an antibiotic are prescribed. Following these instructions will aid the healing process and keep you more comfortable.

Avoid Pressure

Chew foods on the opposite side of the mouth, and do not press against the treated tooth.

Notify the office if chewing on the opposite side is uncomfortable due to unavoidable contact of the treated tooth. You will be appointed to adjust the bite of the treated tooth.

As healing progresses, light pressure may be directed to the tooth. Frequently, this sensitivity persists for ten days to two weeks, improving daily.

Swelling

The tooth was treated to reduce the likelihood of swelling. Frequently, inflammation passes beyond the root to the bone and gum. Antibiotic therapy will be prescribed. Follow instructions explicitly. Call the office if:

Swelling persists or worsens, swelling points or forms a boil, swelling travels up to the side of the nose or travels to the neck, making a stiff neck sensation.

Restoration

The tooth treated by root canal therapy needs restoration. Sometimes a filling can be placed if the tooth had a crown that is of quality to the function of the mouth or the tooth is not functional in biting or chewing. Frequently, posts or strengthening dowels, cores or foundations, and crowns are placed.

A temporary restoration is in place. Contact the office if it is lost.