



ENDODONTIC TREATMENT (Root canal treatment)

Will my tooth hurt after the root canal?

There is a lot of variation in how sore a tooth is after a root canal. Some people report soreness while others say their tooth was tender for several days. With almost all teeth these symptoms go away without further treatment. If pain persists or swelling occurs please call our office.

Temporary fillings

After the root canal your tooth will be sealed with a temporary filling. Until the final restoration (a crown) is placed, be gentle with the tooth. Avoid sticky foods such as chewing gum so that you don't accidentally pull out the temporary filling. Also avoid heavy chewing on the tooth until it is permanently restored.

Pain medication

If pain occurs try to control it with over the counter pain medication, Ibuprofen (Advil) works well, since it has less side effects than narcotic pain relievers. If you need to take a narcotic pain reliever, eat a small meal before taking the medication. This helps minimize the nausea that narcotics can cause. In no case should you exceed the maximum dosage of the medication.

Brushing and Flossing

Continue your normal routine of brushing and flossing as soon as it is comfortable to do so.

Other important information

The treatment you have received has removed the nerve and blood vessels from inside your tooth. The nerve and blood vessels were the blood supply and source of nutrients for the tooth. Without it, your tooth becomes brittle and may fracture leading to possible tooth loss. Therefore, be careful chewing on the tooth until a permanent crown has been placed on the tooth. Root canals have a high success rate, however not all root canals are successful. If continued problems arise after treatment please call our office.