



Root Canal Post-Operative Instructions After Treatment

- Please wait to eat or drink on the affected side until after the numbness has worn away. Please do not chew or attempt to eat on the affected side while you are still numb.
- Discomfort or soreness in the area is normal for a few days (or even weeks) and ranges from mild to severe. The gums may be sore, and the tooth is often tender to biting or chewing. You may take any over-the-counter pain reliever for tenderness or discomfort.
- You may take Acetaminophen or Ibuprofen (Tylenol or Advil) unless you are allergic to these medications or have a medical condition that would prevent you from taking these medications. Discomfort in the area in no way affects the successful outcome of treatment.
- If antibiotics and/or pain medications were prescribed, please take them as directed. If you were given a prescription for pain, it is meant to help you with more serious discomfort only for a couple of days. In the unlikely event that swelling, fever, or severe pain should occur, please call the office promptly.

Temporary Filling

- A temporary filling has been placed in the entry made into your tooth. It is normal for a thin layer of the temporary filling to be chewed away between appointments. An unusual taste can be expected. Should the temporary filling come out, please call our office. It's important that your temporary filling stays intact until the placement of a permanent restoration.

Final Restorations:

- If an appointment to place the final restoration has not been made, please call the office to schedule this appointment. Endodontically treated teeth have been weakened by previous decay and fillings. It is necessary for these teeth to receive additional protection in the form of a cast restoration (crown). This will protect these teeth against future fracture and decay and protect the root canal filling from possible contamination. Delay in obtaining a final restoration may result in fracture and/or possible loss of the tooth or require a retreatment or a root canal.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the office at 202-517-2608.