



Post-op Instructions – Root Canal

Endodontic (root canal) treatment can take one, two, or three appointments depending on the case. It is possible to experience any of the following symptoms after any of these appointments: sensitivity to hot and/or cold; sensitivity to pressure; possible swelling. If you experience swelling, please call our office immediately as additional medication may be required.

One common occurrence with a new root canal tooth is for the tooth to feel high when you bite your teeth together. If this occurs it will cause your tooth to stay sensitive for a longer period of time. Please call us if your bite feels “high” as this problem is easily rectified with a simple bite adjustment.

A temporary filling may be used to temporarily seal the tooth between visits.

Be gentle on the tooth while eating until the final restoration (crown) is placed.

The gum tissue could have been irritated during the procedure and may be sore for a few days together with the anesthetic injection site.

During endodontic (root canal) treatment, the nerve, blood and nutrient supply to the tooth is removed (the root of the tooth is not removed). This will cause the tooth to become brittle and prone to fracturing which could result in the need to extract the tooth. A full coverage crown is indicated to prevent this from happening.

Root canal therapy is approximately 96% successful. Many times a root canal is the only option other than extraction. This, with proper care, allows you to keep your tooth for many years.