



Post Op: Root Canal Therapy

Patient's Name: _____

Tooth#: _____

Provider: _____

Today your tooth was treated with root canal therapy. The objective of the therapy is to remove the nerve tissue completely from the roots of the teeth. In addition to nerve removal, the blood circulation within the tooth has also been removed making the tooth fragile and brittle with time. Therefore, it is necessary to return to your dentist for a core build-up and a crown restoration to prevent future fracture of the tooth.

A temporary filling has been placed in the tooth at this time. The temporary allows for observation over time. The tooth can be easily re-accessed if pain symptoms arise immediately after the root canal and increases with the following days. If the temporary should come loose, call the office immediately. It is advised by studies to have the temporary replaced within 90 hours to avoid a root canal re-treatment.

In some cases, the tooth treated had an actively infected nerve with possible pre-operative pain and/or swelling. It is very important that you continue the prescribed antibiotic until completion. If symptoms decrease with each day, the root canal treatment is progressing successfully. If uncomfortable, strong symptoms persist after a week please call the office to determine if a follow-up appointment or change in medications is necessary.

The following steps may also aid in your healing progress:

1. Eat soft food for the first week following treatment.
2. Avoid extremely cold liquids.
3. Warm compresses to the face will help diffuse the infection.
4. If your medical history permits, anti-inflammatory medications such as Advil, Motrin or Ibuprofen will help reduce the pain. Use as directed on the bottle and take with food.
5. Continue any prescribed antibiotics to completion.
6. Call the office immediately if the temporary filling comes loose. The goal is to replace a missing or dislodged temporary within 90 hours.
7. Make an appointment to have the core build-up and crown restoration to complete tooth treatment.
8. Call the office with any concerns or questions.