



Post Procedure Instructions

Root Canal Therapy

Root canal therapy usually takes one or two appointments to complete. The diseased nerve tissue has been removed from the tooth and the inside was smoothed and cleaned from infection, then sealed at the root. If your tooth was abscessed, some infection may have spread out of the root into the bone. We have prescribed an antibiotic and pain medication to treat the abscess. Please take as directed.

While healing, it is very important to take care of yourself as you would in treating an infection elsewhere in your body. Be sure to drink plenty of water and finish the antibiotic. It is normal to experience some temperature and pressure sensitivity after root canal therapy.

When an anesthetic has been used, your lips and tongue may be numb for several hours after the appointment. **Please refrain from eating and drinking hot beverages until the numbness has completely worn off.** It is very easy to bite or burn your tongue or lip while you are numb.

Now that your tooth has had the nerve and nutrient supply removed and is no longer a “live” tooth, it will tend to become brittle. A crown is now necessary to protect the tooth and provide the strength for everyday stress. With proper care and normal healing responses from your body, this tooth can provide good use for a long period of time.

If pain persists beyond a few days or increases, contact our office. If it is after hours, please call our office number and press “9” anytime during the message.

For Mild to Moderate Discomfort:

Please take Ibuprofen or Advil 200-400mg (equal to 1-2 tablets) every 6 hours.
Take it as instructed and do not exceed 2400mg (12 tablets) in a 24 hour period.

For Moderate to Severe Discomfort:

Please take Ibuprofen or Advil 400-600mg (equal to 2-3 tablets) every 6
hours

Take as instructed and do not exceed 2400mg (12 tablets) in a 24 hour
period.

AND: You may alternate Ibuprofen and Tylenol pain medications every 3
hours for better pain control.

Please take Extra Strength Tylenol 500mg (equal to 1 tablet) every 6 hours.
Take as instructed and do not exceed 3000mg (6 tablets) in a 24 hour period.

Call our office should you experience persistent pain, an uneven bite or if you
have any questions or concerns. If it is after hours, please call our office number
and press “9” anytime during the message.