



Information Following

Endodontic (Root Canal)

Treatment

- Root canal therapy often takes two or more appointments to complete. A temporary filling or crown is placed to protect the tooth between appointments. After each appointment when anesthetic has been used, your lips, teeth and tongue may be numb for several hours after the appointment. Avoid any chewing until the numbness has completely worn off.
- It is difficult to predict which symptoms, if any, you may experience and to what extent. In complicated cases, pain medication may be necessary.
- It's normal to experience some discomfort for several days after a root canal appointment, especially when chewing. To control discomfort, take pain medication as recommended. To further reduce pain and swelling, rinse three times a day with warm salt water (a tsp. of salt in a cup of warm water, rinse-swish-spit).
- If you experience swelling, call our office; it may be necessary to prescribe an antibiotic for you.
- Between appointments it is common (and not a problem) for a small portion of your temporary filling to wear away or break off. If the entire filling falls out, or if a temporary crown comes off, call us so that it can be replaced.
- Be gentle on the tooth while eating until the final restoration is placed.
- During endodontic treatment, the nerve, blood and nutrient supply to the tooth is removed. This will cause the tooth to become brittle and prone to fracturing which may result in the need to extract the tooth. In many cases, a full coverage crown restoration (cap) may be recommended to prevent this from happening.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the office (407) 699-9831.