

Root Canal Instructions

How long will I be numb? Your lips, teeth, cheek, and/or tongue may be numb for several hours after the procedure. While you are numb, you should avoid chewing and hot beverages until the numbness has completely worn off.

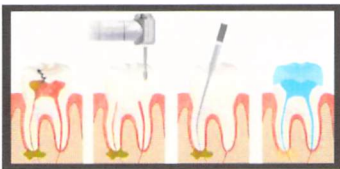
Is it normal for my gums or jaw to be sore? Irritation to the gum tissue can occur from dental work. Rinsing your mouth 2-3 times per day with 1/2 teaspoon of warm salt water can help alleviate discomfort. Injection sites can be sore for several days after your appointment. Over-the-counter pain medications will work well to alleviate the tenderness.

Is it normal for my tooth to ache? It is not uncommon for a tooth to feel tender or even exhibit a dull ache over the next few days as your body undergoes the natural healing process. These symptoms are temporary and usually respond well to over-the-counter pain medications.

Why does my tooth feel different? You may feel a slight indentation on the affected tooth. This is where temporary material was placed through the access that was made on the tooth. It is not unusual for a thin layer to wear off in between appointments. If you think the entire filling has come out, please call the office.

Is it okay to eat on the tooth with the root canal? Please avoid chewing on the tooth that had the root canal. Whenever possible, try to chew on the opposite side of the treated tooth (as it is brittle) until the final restoration has been placed. The temporary filling will not permanently protect your tooth from reinfection or fracture.

Do I need any other treatment after a root canal? A permanent restoration is required after a root canal is performed on a tooth. Most teeth will require some type of crown although some may not.



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