

# ROOT CANAL

## *Post-Surgical Instructions After Your Treatment*

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### After Your Treatment

After the endodontic treatment is completed the tooth canal system is permanently sealed. At this point the outer surface is only sealed with a temporary restoration. A final restoration is necessary to protect the tooth from fractures and decay.

A complete report of treatment will be sent to your restorative dentist. Included in your treatment is a follow-up examination to evaluate the progress of healing. This appointment will require only a few minutes and no additional fee will be charged for the first check-up visit. Please call for an appointment within three weeks of completing treatment.

Your tooth is more prone to fracture immediately after endodontic treatment. It would be best if you chewed on the other side until a core build-up and a protective restoration, usually a dental crown, is placed. If your tooth's strength is seriously compromised, a post and core build-up may be placed inside the tooth. Your dentist will determine the appropriate restoration to best protect your tooth.

### Home Care Instructions

Following an endodontic treatment, your tooth and the surrounding gum tissue may be slightly tender for several days as a result of manipulation during treatment, and due to the previous condition of your tooth. This tenderness is normal and is not a cause for alarm.

- ▶ Do not chew food on the affected side until your tooth is covered with a protective restoration provided by your restorative dentist.
- ▶ You may brush your teeth as usual but try to avoid flossing around that tooth as the temporary filling may dislodge. If at any point the filling feels as it may have dislodged, please contact the office immediately to avoid contamination.
- ▶ Discomfort may be alleviated by taking ibuprofen (Advil), or acetaminophen (Tylenol) as directed. If you are pregnant or think you may be pregnant, please consult with your doctor prior to taking any medications. NOTE: Alcohol intake is not advised while taking any of these medications.
- ▶ Should you experience discomfort that cannot be controlled with the above listed medications, or should swelling develop, please contact our office immediately.