

INSTRUCTIONS FOLLOWING ROOT CANAL THERAPY

DISCOMFORT/SORENESS: Cleaning of the root canals may cause inflammation of the tissue surrounding the tooth. You may experience discomfort lasting from several days to several weeks. Over-the-counter pain medication will usually alleviate the discomfort, however if a prescription was given to you, please take it as instructed.

SWELLING: Some patients may experience swelling. This is NORMAL and will subside with the use of an ice pack at 10 to 15 minute intervals. An antibiotic may be necessary to take as well.

RE-TREATMENT: Even though the pulp of the tooth was removed, the tooth is still nourished from the surrounding tissue. As with any living tissue, treatment is occasionally unsuccessful and a re-treatment or removal of the tooth may be necessary.

INFLAMMATION: Inflammation may cause you to touch the tooth first when you bring your teeth together. Usually this will subside in a few days. If not, we will adjust your bite as necessary.

CHEWING: Avoid chewing or biting directly on the treated tooth until your dentist replaces the temporary filling with a permanent one.

SEE YOUR GENERAL DENTIST: A temporary filling has been placed. Because temporary restorations will eventually allow bacteria leakage, see your dentist in two to three weeks for final restoration.

WOMEN ONLY: Certain medications have been found to decrease the effectiveness of oral contraceptives. These medications include some antibiotics and some pain medications. These medications may be prescribed for you during treatment at this office. If you are on birth control pills, you need to be aware of the possibility of pregnancy and take the appropriate precautions while on prescribed medications.

I understand that my tooth needs to be restored within 20 days. Failure to do so may compromise success of the root canal treatment.

If medication is prescribed, please take as directed. If you are having an EMERGENCY, or you have any questions, please call doctor on their cell or leave a message on our office answering machine.