



Patient Care Instructions for Root Canal Therapy

Today your Root Canal Therapy has been completed. We have put together some home care instructions for you to refer to.

Medication

Post-operative soreness is normal. You have been instructed to take Ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin, etc) 600-800mg, every 6-8hours, for 5-7 days. Ibuprofen is to reduce the inflammation in the area worked on, and will further eliminate pressure sensitivity. Please take as directed. If you are allergic to or cannot take Ibuprofen, please advise us.

Sensitivity

It is very important not to chew on the side that is numb (to prevent biting tongue, lip, etc) until the anesthesia wears off. Following Root Canal Therapy, you may experience discomfort. This is completely normal and any discomfort should diminish within 5-10 days. Some patients experience no discomfort at all. In a very few instances, this sensitivity could last longer than a couple of weeks. As long as your teeth or gums are continuing to feel better (not staying the same, or getting worse) everything is fine. There is no need for concern.

Temporary Filling

If your tooth has a temporary filling, and the root canal has not been completed, please call the office if you feel pressure building in that area.

General Important Notes

If your root canal has been completed, it is normal to have a mild to moderate dull ache in that general area. Take medication as directed. Primary healing takes 2 to 6 weeks; secondary healing is 6 months or longer. After a root canal has been completed, a tooth will become very brittle. This makes the tooth prone to fracture. Therefore, a crown is required to cover and protect the tooth. Occasionally a tooth that has had a root canal may require retreatment, surgery, or even extraction.

Please call the office at 373-0018 if you have any questions, or need more information