



ROOT CANAL

What is a Root Canal:

Teeth, just as any other part of your body, can become infected. The infection usually is caused by (1) a deep cavity, or (2) traumatic injury to the tooth. A root canal treatment will save your tooth and avoid the harmful effects of tooth loss. The abscessed area at the root canal (under the gum) will start to heal slowly and may require several months for complete healing. We will want to check the healing process by comparing x-rays taken at a later date with the original x-rays.

Reasons for a Root Canal:

- Abscessed tooth
- Deep decay into the nerve
- Repeated dental procedures on the tooth
- Faulty crown
- A crack or chip in the tooth
- Extremely painful/sensitive tooth

Benefits of a Root Canal:

- Saves your original tooth
- Helps maintain your natural smile
- Restores basic needs, like eating comfortably
- Eliminates pain & discomfort

How it's done:



Infected tooth



A hole is drilled and the canal is cleaned



Canal is filled



Tooth is reshaped



Crown goes on reshaped tooth

POST OP CARE INSTRUCTIONS

What to expect after treatment:

Once numbness has worn off, you are able to eat and drink normally. The healing process may take a few days and any minor discomfort will subside gradually. It most often feels bruised. You may experience moderate sensitivity to pressure for a week after the procedure. Your tissue near the treated tooth may feel sore for a few days after treatment. Take any medications that we have prescribed for you according to instructions. Floss and brush as you normally would.

Notify our office if:

- Swelling in the gum around the tooth being treated develops
- Temperature above 101 F develops
- The tooth feels as if it's "coming out of the socket"
- The tooth becomes loose
- Pain develops which cannot be controlled by simple remedies such as Aspirin, Tylenol, or Ibuprofen.

Please call the office if you have concerns not mentioned above.

POST OP NOTES:

