

Root Canal Post-Op Instructions

Thank you for coming in to the office today. Below is a list of commonly asked questions regarding your procedure. We hope that the answers will put your mind at ease however, if you have any further questions feel free to call us at the office at (705) 752-4221.

How Long Will I be Numb?

Your lips, cheek and /or tongue may be numb for several hours after the procedure. To prevent injury, you should avoid any chewing and hot beverages until after the numbness has completely worn off. It is very easy to bite or burn your tongue, cheek or lips while you are numb.

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 saltwater can help alleviate discomfort. Injection sites can be sore for several days after your appointment. Over-the-counter pain medications 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 (usually last less than one week) and usually respond well to over-the-counter pain medications.

Why Does My Tooth Feel Different?

You may feel a slight indentation or rough area. This is where a 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. However, if you think the entire filling has come out, please contact the office.

Is It Normal For My Tooth To Be Sensitive?

Your tooth may be sensitive to biting pressure and may appear to feel loose. This is a normal response and is no cause for alarm.

My Bite Feels Off, Is This Normal?

If your bite feels uneven and is causing soreness, please call the office. A short visit to adjust the problem area usually leads to a quick and dramatic improvement.

Is It Okay To Eat On The Tooth With The Root Canal Treatment?

Please avoid chewing hard foods 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 the reinfection or fracture.

Do I Need Any Other Treatment After A Root Canal?

A permanent filling or crown is required after a root canal is performed on a tooth. The location of the tooth will determine what restoration is recommended. Most teeth will require some type of crown, although there are exceptions where a filling may be placed. This permanent restoration is used to avoid future tooth fractures as the tooth is "hollowed out" from the root canal procedure.

IF YOU HAVE ANY ISSUES OR CONCERNS, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL THE OFFICE