

Follow-Up Instructions for Root Canal Treatment

1. The treated tooth is commonly very tender to touch, biting, tapping, and/or chewing for a few days after treatment.
2. Discomfort usually subsides in a couple of days, but may last as long as a few weeks. Improvement will be gradual.
3. The treated tooth, the injection sites, as well as the soft tissues around the tooth, will feel sore and tender.
4. We usually recommend an anti-inflammatory medication such as Ibuprofen, Advil, Motrin, or aspirin for at least three to five days following treatment. If you cannot take any anti-inflammatory medication, then take extra-strength Tylenol. If any of the recommended painkillers are not effective relieving the pain, you should call the office.
5. Take all prescribed medication as directed.
6. If you initially feel better, but then get significantly worse two or three days after treatment, you may be experiencing what is known as a “flare-up.” This is not a common occurrence, but if it happens, please contact our office.
7. **Be absolutely sure you are able to chew on the treated tooth and are not having problems before the final filling/crown is placed.** Failing to return to your dentist as directed to have the tooth restored permanently with a crown or filling can lead to the deterioration of the seal, resulting in fracture, decay, infection, and/or possible premature loss of the tooth and require additional treatment like another retreatment or and extraction. If your temporary comes out, it needs to be replaced right away.
8. We routinely like to perform a follow-up exam at least six months to a year after the treatment. We want to evaluate the treatment outcome, be sure that you have regained normal function with the tooth, and determine the presence of bone healing. There is no charge for this visit.
9. Your comfort throughout all phases of treatment is a major consideration. If a problem arises, day or night, please contact our office.



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