



root canal therapy

1. The treatment that you are about to receive is one of modern dentistry's answers to the problem of saving teeth.
2. Simplified, our treatment consists of painlessly removing the dental pulp and cleaning the canal space then completely refilling the canal with an inert material.
3. A special device, called a rubber dam, will be used to isolate the tooth from the contamination of the saliva.
4. In order to reduce any post-treatment discomfort, the following should be understood:
 - A. It is quite possible that you may experience some tenderness after each treatment. This is the result of the manipulation of instruments within the tooth and will usually subside in 24-48 hours. Pain medication will be prescribed as needed by your doctor. Take medications, if prescribed, as directed. *If discomfort or swelling persists, call this office at once for further instruction.*
 - B. It is preferable to exert as little chewing force on the treated tooth as possible. Tenderness to chewing pressure can be expected after each visit and should diminish gradually over the course of a few days.
5. The temporary filling material has a slightly medicinal taste. This is normal, although rinsing with a mouthwash may be helpful.
6. You may brush your teeth normally. However, brush the treated tooth gently and avoid flossing the area during the course of your treatment.
7. At the final appointment, the root canal will be sealed and completed.
8. At the completion of the root canal therapy, *it will be necessary for you to return to your referring dentist within the following two weeks for a placement of a permanent restoration in the tooth.* Such restoration will give this tooth greater protection, and should be done immediately, in most cases. Failure to do so may result in fracture of the tooth and failure of the root canal treatment.
9. If any other questions arise, please call the office.

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