

ENDODONTIC TREATMENT

Post-Care Instructions

The canal(s) has been sealed and your tooth must now have time to heal. Do not chew on the tooth until you have the tooth restored. Although the roots are permanently sealed, the outer surface is filled with a **temporary** restoration, which will get hard after two hours of placement and may last for many weeks. It is advisable to restore the tooth permanently **as soon as possible**. Current research has shown that even newly sealed root canals will be totally contaminated with bacteria if the temporary filling is missing for over three weeks. A final restoration (buildup and crown/bridge) will give the tooth its necessary protection.

Local Anesthesia

The anesthesia used during your procedure will wear off within a few hours. You may experience tenderness, mild swelling or bruising to the injection site. In rare cases, prolonged numbness can occur. Please contact our office if numbness does not wear off within 48 hours of your procedure.

Pain Management

- It is normal for you to experience some degree of discomfort for a few days. This tenderness is normal and is no cause for alarm.
- Discomfort may be alleviated by taking Aleve, ibuprofen (Advil), aspirin, or acetaminophen (Tylenol) as directed. **600 mg Ibuprofen along with 500 mg & Tylenol every 6 hours for 2 days as needed.**
- Warm salt water rinses (1/2 teaspoon of salt in 8 ounces of water) may also help. Should you experience discomfort that cannot be controlled with the above medications or should swelling develop, please contact our office, we are here to help, and happy to do so.

Please call our office if you have any questions or difficulties. If it is after hours, our voice mail has our emergency phone number. If you feel that your symptoms warrant a physician, and you are unable to reach the doctor, please go to the closest hospital emergency room immediately.