

# A FEW WORDS ABOUT YOUR ROOT CANAL PROCEDURE

## HUNTER ENDODONTICS

*Limited Practice*

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It is normal for a tooth to be sore or tender to touch after endodontic treatment. This could be the result of a previous condition, or it might be the result of today's manipulation within the tooth. We suggest taking a standard over-the-counter medication like Aspirin, Ibuprofen (Advil), Tylenol, or Aleve every four to six hours for at least the day of your appointment, and as necessary for the next few days. This is usually adequate to control any discomfort. It will also be helpful to avoid chewing on this tooth if it is tender. Again, some soreness following these procedures is typical, but does not affect the successful outcome of treatment.

Antibiotics and stronger pain medications are prescribed only as necessary and are meant to help your system cope with more significant infections and pain for the first few days after your appointment. If you are taking a medication we have prescribed for you and it seems to be making your general situation worse, please call our office. If you notice a rash or allergic type reaction at any time after taking a medication we have prescribed or suggested for you, discontinue it and call our office.

We will be sending your dentist a picture of your tooth showing the finished root canal procedure and a note indicating the type of restoration that was placed. If a temporary filling was placed in the tooth after the root canal procedure was finished, a return visit to your dentist will be necessary for a final restoration. If you don't already have an appointment with your primary dentist to do this, you should call that office to make an appointment.

If a temporary filling was used after today's procedure, you might notice a depression in the top of the tooth where it was placed. This cement is softer than a permanent filling and will wear away slowly or may push down into the opening made in the tooth (like a cork pushed partway into a bottle). Usually the cement filling is still intact and will last between appointments, so this should not alarm you. However, if you can tell that most or the entire temporary filling has broken out of the tooth, call our office for assistance.

While not required, patients are encouraged to return to this office approximately 6 months after the completion of their root canal treatment for a new x-ray to evaluate the progress of healing. There is no additional charge for this follow-up appointment. If you have any questions or problems concerning treatment please don't hesitate to call.