

AFTER YOUR ROOT CANAL

Your root canal therapy has been successfully completed. Please follow these instructions to help the healing process and protect your tooth.

EATING AND DRINKING

Do not attempt to eat solid food until the numbness is completely gone. If you are hungry have a milkshake or other liquid. After the numbness is gone it is a good idea to avoid hard foods on the treated tooth until receiving the permanent crown.

BRUSHING AND FLOSSING

Continue with normal home care routine. Brush in the morning after breakfast, and floss and brush before bed.

POST TREATMENT DISCOMFORT

Root canal therapy generally involves only minor discomfort. For best results, take Ibuprofen or Tylenol before the numbness has worn off. You can take alternating doses should you need more pain control. Take Ibuprofen first, then 2 hours later take Tylenol followed by a second dose of Ibuprofen in 2 hours, then Tylenol 2 hours later. This regimen is effective in controlling pain and discomfort without the use of a narcotic. If you have been prescribed a narcotic for pain control, you must take the first dose before the numbness wears off.

If you have been prescribed an antibiotic, continue to take them as directed until all the medication is gone. Even if the symptoms of infection are gone there will be residual infection deep in the tissue that must be eliminated.

CALLING OUR OFFICE

Any discomfort that does not get better within four to five days or that gets worse should be reported to our office. Your bite should feel normal. A high or uneven bite needs to be adjusted, and will require only a quick appointment. If you have a temporary filling that comes out or a temporary crown that comes off, it must be replaced as soon as possible. If you have any concerns or questions, please call our office at (706) 796-6269.

WHAT'S NEXT

Following root canal therapy, we recommend having the tooth crowned at the earliest possible appointment. This will provide solid protection for your tooth against fracture and possible loss.