

A Word About Root Canals

Root canal treatment is the only method of saving a tooth that is abscessed or has a diseased nerve. Without this treatment, the tooth will eventually be lost.

Root canal treatment involves the removal of infected material from within the tooth. The canals of the tooth are then cleansed, disinfected, and filled to eliminate spaces where infection might reoccur. Usually one or two visits are required to complete a root canal treatment.

After a root canal treatment, it is normal for the tooth to be tender or sore for a period of one to two weeks. Usually two Advil taken with two Tylenol every 4-6 hours is sufficient to relieve discomfort. In fact, it is recommended that you take two Advil every 6 hours for two days to help with inflammation regardless if you are experiencing any sensitivity. However, if more severe pain or swelling occurs please contact us immediately at 303-839-5109.

You should give the tooth rest by not chewing on that side of your mouth until comfort returns. You may eat or drink anything you like. DO brush and floss your teeth normally.

A root canal treated tooth is more brittle than an untreated tooth. Therefore, it is advisable to have a crown placed on the tooth once the root canal is complete. This will protect the tooth against future breaking or splitting from the forces of chewing.

All teeth cannot be saved by root canal treatment; but our rate of success is well over 90%. A successful treatment should produce a tooth that is healthy and comfortable indefinitely (although it is still subject to cavities and gum disease).