



Post-Operative Instructions for Root Canal Treatment



After root canal treatment is completed:

- It is normal for your tooth to be sore for the first 2-3 days after treatment.
- Tenderness while biting may persist from a few days to weeks or months in certain cases following treatment but this will gradually get better over time.

Pain relieve medications

- 400 to 800mg Ibuprofen or 500 mg Ponstan may be taken every six hours for the first one to two days for post-operative soreness and in preventing tenderness.

If you are allergic to or are sensitive to Ibuprofen or ponstan or have been advised not to use it, you may take up to 1000 mg of Acetaminophen (i.e. two 500mg Tylenol tablets) every six hours.

- For more severe discomfort is anticipated, other medications may be prescribed and is to be used as directed.

Final restorations

- Post root canal treatment, only a temporary filling is in place at this time.
- It is critical that an appointment for the placement of the definitive or final permanent restoration(s) is made as soon as possible after the completion of root canal treatment.
- A post/core and crown, onlay or filling may be done to seal the root canal filling and help protect the tooth from fracture.
- Avoid chewing or placing heavy biting pressure on the treated tooth until the final restoration is placed.



Follow-up instructions

- The tooth should be examined about one year after treatment.
- Although root canal treatment is highly successful, about 5-15% of cases may re-occur. The tooth may not be totally healed and/or may have persistent x-ray evidence of disease with or without symptoms.
- In such cases, re-treatment of root canal or minor surgery might need to be done to resolve the problem. Removal of the tooth would be the alternative option. If you experience any serious pain or swelling (which is not comfortably controlled by the medications prescribed), please do kindly contact us.



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