

D. WAYNE HUGHART, DDS, MS

PRACTICE LIMITED TO ENDODONTICS

FINAL TREATMENT INSTRUCTIONS

Thank you for choosing our office for your endodontic treatment. Root canal therapy has now been completed on your tooth. The root canals have been permanently sealed and a temporary filling has been placed in your tooth. You need to phone your dentist promptly for an appointment to place a permanent restoration. It is recommended that some type of permanent restoration be placed within two (2) weeks to one (1) month post treatment. The permanent restoration will protect the tooth against fracture and decay. Most teeth with root canals require caps or crowns and any delay in obtaining a final filling or crown may result in fracture and possible loss of the tooth.

Due to the manipulation of the tooth during the procedure, your tooth will become sore to bite on or to touch, and the tooth may be sore for several days up to a few weeks as a result of the treatment, and for this reason, you should avoid chewing on the treated side of your mouth. It is very rare that your normal activities would be restricted or interrupted after treatment, and you should therefore plan to proceed normally through your daily routine. Normally 800mg of ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin) every 8 hours, or 650mg of acetaminophen (Tylenol) or aspirin every 6 hours is all that is needed for the soreness. In the unlikely event that the pain should become severe or swelling should develop, please contact our office for management.

Antibiotics or prescription pain medications are rarely needed following treatment. However, if you have been prescribed medication, please take it exactly as directed on the label.

A temporary filling was placed in your tooth upon completion of treatment, and the filling needs at least thirty (30) minutes to harden before eating. It is important that the tooth remain sealed between your appointment with our office and your appointment with your dentist for permanent restoration. Therefore, if you feel that you have lost the temporary filling, please call our office immediately.

Your dentist will be sent an x-ray and treatment report so that he/she is made aware that your treatment with this office has been completed. Your dentist will also be advised that you have been instructed to return to his/her office for placement of the permanent restoration.

Root canal therapy is intended to be successful for many years. There are, however, failures which result from fractured teeth, recurrent decay and periodontal problems, as well as your failure to have the tooth permanently restored. It is very important to schedule a follow-up appointment with your dentist and to schedule regular checkups as well.

As a service to you, our office provides a free six-month follow-up x-ray of the tooth treated at your appointment. Approximately six (6) months after treatment completion a reminder card will be mailed to you. Please call our office to schedule a visit when you receive this card.

Again, we thank you for the opportunity to be of service to you, and if you have any questions, or if there are any problems, please feel free to call.

Sincerely,

D. Wayne Hughart, DDS, MS, and STAFF

The above treatment instructions have been reviewed with me, and I understand that the treated tooth is in need of permanent restoration by my dentist in the time frame outlined above.

PATIENT

Date