



macedon family dentistry

joseph m. behrman, d.d.s. jeni l. behrman, d.m.d.

1212 route 31
p. o. box 862
macedon, new york 14502

phone (315) 986-3545
fax (315) 986-1074

ROOT CANAL TREATMENT Postoperative Instructions

Your root canal treatment may take one or more visits to complete. During treatment, we remove the diseased nerve, then clean, shape and fill the root canal to prevent recontamination. This flyer will help answer some of your questions about what to expect and how to take care of your mouth after treatment.

What to Expect after Treatment

- Because cleaning the root canals may cause inflammation of tissue surrounding the tooth, you may experience some discomfort for a day or so.
- Over-the-counter pain relievers usually alleviate the discomfort. If the discomfort continues, or if you have severe pain or swelling, please call the office.
- Between appointments, a temporary filling is placed. Because temporary fillings will eventually loosen, the final restoration should be done as soon as possible after the root canal treatment is completed.
- Sometimes antibiotics are prescribed to help control infection. Please take all medication as directed.

How to Take Care of Your Mouth

- Avoid chewing or biting directly on the treated tooth until the temporary filling is replaced.
- If medication is prescribed, take it only as directed.
- Return for a follow-up appointment after treatment to ensure that there has been proper healing of the tissues surrounding the tooth root.

After Your Root Canal is Completed

- Once the root canal is completed, a post and then a crown is almost always needed to avoid a fracture of the tooth.

Retreatment May Occasionally be Necessary

- Even though the pulp of the tooth was removed, the tooth is still nourished from surrounding tissues. As with any living tissue, treatment is occasionally unsuccessful and a retreatment, or removal of the tooth, may be necessary.