

Post-op Instructions After Root Canals

1. It is normal to have soreness in the area after a Root Canal is performed. It can take several days for the soreness to dissipate. Generally speaking the more infected the tooth was prior to treatment, the longer it takes before the soreness goes away.
2. Do not chew on the tooth that received the Root Canal until the definitive treatment is completed such as a permanent filling or build up with a crown. The tooth is at its weakest at this point and is likely to break if a patient chews with it.
3. A temporary filling is generally placed following the Root Canal while the tooth is healing. If the temporary filling comes out, it is not an emergency, but please do contact the office for instruction.
4. Studies show that temporary fillings only stay sealed for approximately 30 days. After 30 days, they can begin to leak bacteria into the tooth potentially reinfected the tooth. Therefore, unless otherwise instructed, it is recommended to have the definitive treatment, such as a permanent filling or build up with a crown, performed before the seal is lost.
5. Take prescriptions as advised—if no special medicine is prescribed, use Tylenol, Ibuprofen (Advil or Motrin), or Aleve (unless you have a medical history that prohibits their usage. In such cases, ask the dentist for appropriate action).
6. If any significant swelling, redness, fever, or pain occurs following the Root Canal, please contact the office.