

NOW THAT ENDODONTICS IS COMPLETE

The root canal spaces inside your tooth have been cleaned, medicated and filled. The tooth opening through which endodontic treatment has been carried out has been sealed again with a temporary filling.

The treated tooth may still be tender for some time. This outermost filling may not be permanent so if necessary, please contact your dentist within the next few weeks to arrange to have this tooth restored. If you do not have this tooth restored it may break.

If you have had a local anaesthetic injection, particularly a mandibular block, which numbs the lower lip, we advise that eating and drinking hot liquids should be avoided until the numbness wears off. If you choose to eat or drink hot liquids while still numb, please take particular care as it is possible to lacerate the oral tissue inadvertently.

Usually a tooth that requires root canal treatment has had a past history of decay, large filling or trauma. It is often necessary for this type of tooth to receive additional protection in the form of a crown or an onlay. Your dentist is the best qualified to determine how to restore your tooth.

Until you have had a chance to visit your dentist again, it is wise to be careful biting or using the treated tooth so that you do not fracture it.

Our office will send a letter and a copy of your final digital image to your dentist, informing him or her that the treatment has been completed.

You will be advised by Dr Bader, Dr Barbat or Dr Premdas-Rogers if you require another appointment in six months to re-examine the tooth. At this time we would like to x-ray your tooth to evaluate the extent of healing that has occurred.

Your root filled tooth should serve you well for the long term, however if you habitually grind or clench your teeth, the very high abnormal loading (approx. thirty times greater than normal chewing forces) will significantly increase the risk of root fracture. If you know or have been told you clench or grind your teeth, routine wearing of a bite splint will protect them from these potentially destructive forces. Please discuss this with your dentist.