ENDODONTIC POST-TREATMENT INSTRUCTIONS

Slight discomfort following endodontic treatment may occur. This is normal and is caused by the inflammatory process that was present in and around your tooth. The tooth should feel much better in three to five days. Take medication as prescribed.

If you experience significant swelling and/or severe pain, please contact us immediately as this is an unusual occurrence after root canal treatment. A “flare-up” resulting in a rapidly increasing area of swelling must be treated as soon as possible.

Avoid chewing on the tooth for several days in order to minimize discomfort. After this, try chewing soft foods on the tooth. If sensitivity continues, please contact us.

If the gums around the tooth are irritated following the endodontic treatment, this may be due to placement of the rubber dam during treatment. Rinsing your mouth with warm water will speed up the healing. This should be repeated every three or four hours until the discomfort subsides. If the discomfort does NOT subside, please contact us.

Upon completion of the root canal therapy, a temporary restoration is placed in the tooth to prevent possible recontamination of the root canal by saliva and bacteria. It is very important that you contact your dentist to have a permanent restoration placed. The restoration for a posterior tooth should cover the entire biting surface of the tooth, usually this is accomplished with a crown restoration. This will protect the treated tooth and prevent possible fracture of the remaining tooth structure.

It will be necessary to have one or more short follow-up appointments so we can evaluate the healing process of the treated tooth and surrounding tissues. This brief examination can be performed at our office or by your general dentist. This allows us the opportunity to provide the best possible care and make sure that you are not having any problems.

You will be contacted for a follow-up appointment in approximately ________ months.

**PROBLEMS** — if you have any questions or think that the post-treatment progress is not progressing properly, please contact us immediately.

Thank you for allowing us to participate in your dental care.