

Following Root Canal Therapy

Root canal therapy is a procedure which removes the soft tissue (nerve and blood supply) from within the tooth. This procedure is performed because of deep decay or infection within the tooth or because it is required to rebuild or restore the tooth.

Even though the tooth's nerve is removed during this procedure, it is not uncommon to experience some "tooth" sensitivity after the anesthetic wears off. Most often, this feeling comes from the soft tissues that surround the tooth's roots. These tissues retain a rich nerve supply even following root canal therapy.

Your healing time is usually related to the condition of the tooth prior to the root canal therapy. If pain medicine has been prescribed, take the first dose before the numbing medicine wears off. If you were given an antibiotic, take it as prescribed. Generally, the tooth will become more comfortable and will be ready for restoration within one week.

Restoring a tooth following root canal treatment is necessary because the tooth will become brittle and may fracture under the heavy forces placed upon it while chewing. A crown or cap provides the protection against this fracture. A post and core or "pin" is necessary to stabilize the crown. It is very important to the health of the tooth that the restoration work is completed.

Please contact our office if you have any questions.