



PFLUGERVILLE SMILES DENTISTRY

Creating Miles of Smile. Your Smile is Our Passion.

Root Canal Therapy

I UNDERSTAND that ROOT CANAL THERAPY includes possible inherent risks such as, but not limited to the following:

- The tooth may remain tender or even quite painful for a period of time both during and after completed treatment. If pain is severe or swelling occurs, please call our office immediately
- In some teeth, regular root canal therapy alone may not be sufficient. If the canals are blocked, excessively curved, inaccessible, inadvertent pulp chamber or root perforation, or if there is substantial infection in the bone around the tooth, additional oral surgery, including apicoectomy(s) or possibly extraction may become necessary
- Root canal treated teeth may become somewhat brittle and subject to cracking or fracturing. Crowning (capping) the tooth is the best prevention to avoid this problem from occurring.
- Root canal treated teeth must be protected. During and after treatment, your tooth will have only a temporary filling (should this come out for any reason, please call the office for replacement). It is advisable to crown (cap_ the tooth as soon as possible to prevent further damage
- Root canal therapy is not always successful. Many factors influence outcome and success: adequate gum tissue attachment and bone support, oral hygiene, previous and present dental care, general health of patient, absence of trauma, pre-existing undetectable root fractures. No matter how successfully a tooth may appear to be treated, there is the possibility of failure and consequent extraction
- Root fracture is one of the main reasons why root canals fail. Unfortunately, "hairline" cracks are almost always invisible and undetectable. Causes of root fractures are trauma, inadequately protected teeth, cracking of the tooth, large fillings, improper bite, excessive wear, habitual grinding of teeth, etc. Root fracture after or prior to treatment, usually necessitates extractions.
- There are alternatives to root canal treatment. These alternatives (though not of choice) include: no treatment, extraction followed by bridge placement or partial denture; and/or extraction followed by implant and individual crown placement
- Because of the fragility and small diameter of root canal instruments used in root canal treatment, there is the possibility of instrument separation. This may in some instances necessitate either root surgery or extraction of the tooth
- Once treatment is begun, it is absolutely necessary that the root canal treatment is completed. One or more appointments may be required to complete treatment. It is a patient's responsibility to seek attention should any undue circumstances occur; and the patient must diligently follow any and all preoperative and/or postoperative instructions given to them.

I have been given the opportunity to ask any questions regarding the nature and purpose of root canal treatment and have received answers to my satisfaction. I do voluntarily assume any and all possible risks, including risk of substantial harm, if any, which may be associated with any phase of this treatment in hopes of obtaining the desired potential results, which may/may not be achieved. No promises or guarantees have been made to me concerning the results. The fee(s) for this service have been explained to me and are satisfactory. By signing this form, I am freely giving my consent to allow

and authorize resident doctor in Pflugerville Comfort Dental and/or any associate doctor to render treatment necessary and/or advisable to my dental condition(s), including any and all anesthetics and/or medications