

## **Endodontic (Root Canal) Informed Consent**

\_\_\_\_\_ has recommended Root Canal Therapy for \_\_\_\_\_ as part of  
Dentist's Name Patient's Name

the treatment to maintain tooth placement and function for his/her continued oral health. (**TOOTH** \_\_\_\_\_ )

The purpose of root canal therapy is to retain teeth that would otherwise have to be extracted (removed).

Treatment may require multiple visits and it is important that you maintain scheduled appointments or the infection can reoccur.

Endodontic treatment has a high degree of success. As any medical or dental treatment, however, this treatment has no guarantee of success for any length of time. Teeth with previous root canal treatment will have a lower success rate.

Accurate and complete disclosure of medical information is necessary for proper diagnosis that will help prevent any unnecessary complications during your treatment.

The most common complications with root canal therapy include, but are not limited to:

- Continued infection requiring endodontic (root canal) surgery or extraction of the tooth.
- Calcified canals or canals blocked by separated instruments requiring endodontic (root canal) surgery or extraction of the tooth.
- Pain, requiring use of medication.
- Side effects and reactions to medication.
- Fractures (breaking) of the root or crown of the tooth during or after treatment. It is recommended that all posterior teeth be adequately restored following root canal treatment. In many cases this will involve placement of a crown. If your tooth already has a crown there is a chance it will need to be replaced due to decay or loss of structural support. Porcelain crowns are subject to breakage when access to the root canal system is made.
- Tenderness of the tooth following treatment due to possible complications with root canal treatment, gum disease, physical stress from chewing, or the degree of healing your body exhibits.

Other treatment choices include waiting for a more definite development of symptoms or tooth extraction, which could necessitate a bridge, implant or removable partial. Another option is no treatment. Risks involved in this choice may include pain, infection, swelling, loss of teeth and infection to other areas.

After the completion of the root canal procedure, you will be made an appointment for the permanent restoration (filling, crown, onlay). Failure to have the tooth properly restored in a timely manner significantly increases the possibility of re-infection, failure of the root canal procedure and/or tooth fracture.

I have had an opportunity to ask questions of my treating doctor and am fully satisfied with the answers that I have received.

We invite your questions concerning the risks discussed and contained in this document. By signing below you acknowledge that you have read this document, understand the information presented and have had all your questions answered satisfactorily and consent to proceed with treatment.

### **SPECIFIC ISSUES / QUESTIONS ASKED BY THE PATIENT:**

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Patient Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_