

## AFTER ENDODONTIC TREATMENT/RETREATMENT

- **When can I eat?** Avoid chewing or eating with the area for the next 30-60 minutes until your normal sensation returns. We want to be sure you don't accidentally bite your tongue or cheek while still numb.
- **Will I be able to drive?** The dental anesthetic solutions we use are common of what we use for typical fillings, extractions, or deep cleanings. They should not alter your ability to drive. However, you may feel tired after the dental appointment, if so we suggest you to rest here, or call someone to pick you up.
- **What pain will I have?** Your tooth can be tender for several days following treatment, particularly to biting pressure. Over the counter (OTC) anti-inflammatory drugs such as Advil, Ibuprofen, Aleve, or aspirin are helpful in resolving the post-operative tenderness. They should be taken for at least 24 hours or until the tooth feels better. Tylenol is also an excellent pain reliever if stomach upset or allergy is a problem with the other drugs, though it does not have anti-inflammatory effects. If you have discomfort not relieved by these medications, please contact us for further advice. About 5% of the patients have a flare-up/breakthrough pain that needs extra attention.

If you have a flare-up, call us, we'll recommend the following regimen:

Take ibuprofen 600 mg, then 3-4 hours later,

Take Norcol 5/325, then 3-4 hours later,

Take Ibuprofen 600 mg

And also start on Clindamycin

- **Do I need need permanent crown?** Endodontic treatment for this tooth has now been COMPLETED. You may need further treatment to properly restore the tooth (see below).
  - A permanent restoration was placed in your tooth and no further treatment is needed on this tooth at this time.
  - A core build-up was placed in your tooth. We recommend you have a crown made to protect your tooth from potential fracture as soon as possible. Please see your general dentist to determine the necessity of the crown.
  - A temporary filling was placed in your tooth to seal the inside from bacterial contamination. It is important to have a permanent restoration placed as soon as possible. Your tooth is fragile with this temporary filling, so avoid heavy chewing forces until it is restored. If the temporary filling should come out, be sure to have it resealed immediately as bacterial contamination can cause root canal failure requiring expensive re-treatment. On back teeth a crown will usually be required to protect the tooth from potential fracture. Please see your regular dentist for permanent restoration.
- **Do I need to return?**
  - Endodontic treatment for this tooth has been initiated. We need to see you again to complete treatment. A temporary filling has been placed to seal the access opening between appointments. The tooth may be fragile with this temporary restoration, so avoid heavy biting forces.
  - We like to follow up with you in couple weeks to monitor the healing
  - Your tooth is expected to heal without any issues, returning to us is not necessary unless you have further concerns or adverse situations.