

# ROOT CANAL TREATMENT INFORMATION

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## WHY DO I NEED THIS TREATMENT, THE BENEFITS AND RISKS

### ROOT CANAL TREATMENT

This leaflet provides with main points of discussion your dentist will cover

### TREATMENT PROCEDURE

Dentalhealth.org is a useful resource for patients. Our organization is not connected in any way with them. An explanation of treatment can be found at <https://www.dentalhealth.org/root-canal-treatment>

### OTHER OPTIONS

Your alternative options may include no treatment, extraction, endodontic surgery such as apicectomy, or referral to a specialist ie endodontist

### WHY DO I NEED IT AND SOME BENEFITS

Root canal treatments are carried out because the nerve tissue is no longer healthy and suitable to leave within the tooth as it can become infected. Root canal treatment aims to remove unhealthy or infected nerve within the tooth. My replacing it with a root canal filling material, the tooth can be retained in the mouth to function as a unit of your dentition.

### RISKS OR HARM

As you would expect, there are times when procedure does not go to plan. You are made aware of complications such as persistent pain, swelling, infection, fractured teeth during or after treatment. The dentist may encounter technical problems such as a *fine file instrument breaking within the root canal, swallowing instruments, burn to lip, leakage of liquids for cleaning canals leaking out of the root canal and into your soft tissues that can be harmful.*

## SUCCESS LIKELIHOOD AND FUTURE IMPLICATIONS

### IS IT SUCCESSFUL?

The treatment is generally successful, perhaps 90% of the time according to experts, meaning that there are small chances of future recurrence of symptoms indicating further treatment or extraction required. Your dentist is best placed to explain and answer specific questions you have.

### FUTURE IMPLICATIONS

Root canal treated teeth very often require restoring with treatments such as a crown or onlay to protect the tooth structure from breaking leading to premature tooth loss. Your dentist is best placed to explain and answer specific questions you have.