

- 1 - Normal Enamel & Dentin
- 2 - Dental pulp chamber (1/2 infected / 1/2 healthy)
- 3 - Dental decay entering the tooth and dental pulps
- 4 - Dental abscess from infected root canal

Before Your Office Visit.....

Make sure you know the type and dose of any medications you may be taking. Also, if you have a prosthetic heart valve, artificial joint, diabetes, or any other disease that requires premedication before dental treatment, please call and let us know about this or any other special needs before your appointment so that this can be arranged. As with any routine dental appointment, you should be able to drive yourself to and from your appointment, or you can bring along a friend for assistance if desired.

If you have any other questions before your office visit, please don't hesitate to call or E-mail us at:

Dr. Jonathan L. Vlahos
Dr. Peter G. Fotos
 Professional Towers, Suite 524 A
 4010 Dupont Circle
 Louisville, Kentucky 40207
 Telephone: (502) 897-2040
 Facsimile: (502) 897-2432
 www.eastendodontics.com
 staff@eastendodontics.com

Hours weekly: Monday through Friday, with availability on Saturday morning by appointment.

Dentist's Referral Information

Patient Name: _____

Referred by Dr.: _____

Date: ___/___/___ Accompanying X-Ray? Yes No

Indicate treatment needs below:

Right			(Circle)	Left		
Molars	Premolars	Anteriors		Premolars	Molars	
1 2 3	4 5	6 7 8 9 10 11		12 13	14 15 16	
32 31 30	29 28	27 26 25 24 23 22		21 20	19 18 17	

Endodontic Therapy Endodontic Retreatment
 Consultation Apicoectomy
 Bleach Post Space
 Post & Core (Dr. Vlahos only)



East End Endodontics

Professional Towers
 4010 Dupont Circle, Suite 524 A
 Louisville, Kentucky 40207
 502-897-2040

Welcome to our Dental Specialty Office limited to the practice of Endodontics. We would like the opportunity to provide you with some background information and reply to some questions often asked by our patients.

Why have I been referred to an endodontic specialist?

Your dentist has most likely referred you to us because of a problem with the pulp tissue inside your tooth. Your problem may require the expertise of an endodontic specialist who has advanced training in treating problems such as yours. We will evaluate your dental problem and discuss your recommended treatment with you before any treatment is started.

What is endodontic therapy?

The term Endodontics comes from the word "endo" which means inside, and "dontics" which means tooth related. Please look at the tooth drawing on the inside and note the numbered references. **(1)** The crown of your tooth is the part that you can see above the gum. It is covered by a hard layer of enamel. Beneath that lies the dentin, another hard tissue. **(2)** Under the dentin and extending down into the roots is the pulp, a soft tissue that includes nerves, blood and lymphatic vessels. The pulp's job is to form the teeth and nourish them.

Normally, the pulp is protected from many infectious bacteria in the mouth. **(3)** However, infection can spread into the pulp when decay or fractures allow for bacteria to gain entrance into the pulp chamber. **(4)** Left untreated, this infection can spread down the root canals and into the surrounding bone causing a dental abscess. Archaeological evidence of endodontic (root canal) therapy dates back to the 2nd or 3rd century B.C.

when attempts were made to repair abscessed teeth with medicines placed inside the roots of painful teeth. Today, Endodontic therapy is a procedure performed in order to preserve a tooth in which the pulp or “nerves and blood vessels” within the tooth have been irreversibly damaged. In such cases the only alternative to endodontic therapy is to have the tooth in question removed. Since natural teeth are superior in function to open spaces, dentures and even dental implants, the decision to consider endodontic therapy and therefore retain your natural teeth as long as possible is highly preferable. Given the alternative of dental extraction, it is no surprise that over **25 million** endodontic procedures were completed last year alone.

What will happen during the treatment?

After collecting some information about your overall health, the dentist will anesthetize or “numb” the problem tooth to eliminate any discomfort. Decayed or damaged tooth structure will be removed and the root canal system of the tooth will be slightly enlarged with delicate instruments and disinfected with antiseptic medicine. Then the empty root canals will be filled with a pliable rubber based material and sealed with a special type of cement. This will prevent bacteria and infection from following the root canal system in the bone surrounding the tooth. A temporary filling will be placed into your tooth and you will return to your regular dentist to have a final restoration placed (for example, this may be a simple filling, or a post and crown).

Will the treatment take long?

Normally, endodontic procedures can be accomplished in one, 1 to 1-1/2 hour visit. However, more difficult cases may require you to return to our office more than once in order to assure for the best possible treatment outcome.

Will the treatment be painful?

With today’s modern techniques and the special skills of an endodontist, 4 out of 5 patients surveyed showed that root canal therapy is no more uncomfortable than having a cavity filled. Among those who report discomfort, most often confuse or associate pre-existing pain of an infected tooth with the root canal treatment. Every effort will be made to assure that your visit to this office will be as painless and pleasant as possible, and the necessary procedures will be accomplished skillfully and efficiently.

How long will my root canal last?

Of course, there are never guarantees with any form of medical or dental treatment due to unexpected complications discovered during or after treatment. However, such complications are infrequent and the vast majority of patients (95% or higher) continue to use endodontically treated teeth for many years avoiding tooth loss.

How much will my root canal cost?

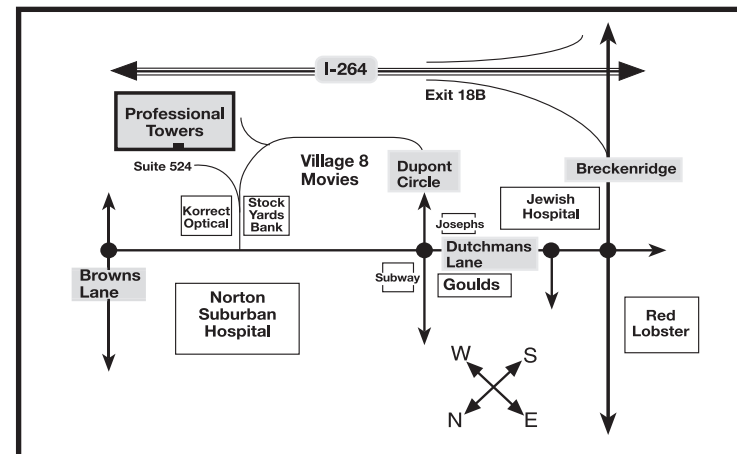
Fees for your endodontic treatment vary depending upon the tooth involved, the number of roots, and the difficulty of the specific case. However, average fees for the Kentuckiana region are low when compared to national averages.

Office payment policies are as follows unless other arrangements are made in advance:

If you have dental insurance: We ask that you either bring in an insurance form or that you have all insurance information required in order so that we can file your insurance for you. If your insurance company allows our office to accept assignment of benefits, we will ask that you pay the unpaid deductible and/or our estimate of your co-payment at the time of treatment.

For your convenience, all major credit cards as well as CareCredit are accepted.

Need Directions? See our map below.



Let us introduce you to the Doctors

Dr. Jonathan Vlahos is a native of Dayton, Ohio having received his Bachelor’s degree from Wright State University in 2001 and the University of Louisville School of Dentistry in 2007. He subsequently was commissioned as a Lieutenant and fleet dental officer with the United States Navy Dental Corp. in Okinawa, Japan. He also completed a General Practice Residency in San Diego California, and subsequently his Endodontic Residency and a Master’s Degree from the University of Louisville School of Dentistry in 2013. He is a member of the American Dental Association and the American Association of Endodontics. He keeps a part-time teaching commitment with the University of Louisville School of Dentistry. His non-professional interests include: carpentry and landscaping.



Dr. Peter Fotos is a native of Maysville, Kentucky, having graduated from West Virginia University School of Dentistry in 1978, and interned at Miami Valley Hospital at Dayton, Ohio. Following 16 years of teaching dentistry at West Virginia University and at the University of Iowa, he completed his residency training in Endodontics at the University of Louisville School of Dentistry. He also holds Masters and Ph.D. degrees in Medical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases, and has extensive experience in the diagnosis and therapeutic management of dental and facial pain. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Oral Medicine, a Fellow of the Academy of General Dentistry and the International College of Dentists, and a member of the American Association of Endodontics, OKU Dental and ΣX Science Honorary Societies. He has published and lectured internationally, and maintains a part-time teaching commitment with the University of Louisville School of Dentistry. His non-professional interests include: rose and orchid horticulture, photography, Alaskan dental outreach projects, and classical piano.

