

ROOT CANAL APPOINTMENT FLOW

Knowing what tooth

1. Check the patients treatment plan on core
2. Look at the patients x-rays and confirm which tooth with the treating clinician

Consult appointment

Initial Consultation and diagnostics which include CBCT, Trios scan, Studio and given consent forms.

Relief of pain appointment

This is an appointment to purely get the patient some relief of pain if the tooth is heavily infected and can't wait for the next available appointment. There is a small opening made into the tooth and some odontopaste (a medication used to relieve pain and as an anti inflammatory) is placed into the canals of the teeth with a k file. A temporary filling is placed in the interim until the next appointment.

1st stage - Extirpation

This first stage will involve an evaluation of your tooth to confirm that a root canal is required, followed by an initial clean to control the bacterial infection in the tooth. After numbing your tooth, your dentist will make a small opening on the top of the tooth in order to thoroughly clean the tooth's root canal. This includes rinsing with antibacterial solutions and applying medication. Finally, a temporary filling will be placed in the tooth before moving on to stage two of your root canal treatment.

2nd stage - Instrumentation

The second stage of root canal treatment can sometimes be performed on the same day as stage one, but it may need to be carried out 1-2 weeks later if the tooth is heavily infected. This stage involves a more thorough clean of the root canal in order to remove all the remaining bacteria inside the tooth. X-rays are taken to confirm the length of the root canal to ensure that the full canal is cleaned. Your dentist will also apply medication to the tooth to treat the infection.

3rd stage - Obturation

Once the root canal is completely free of any bacteria and patients symptoms have been alleviated, it's time to fill the root canal. This will generally take place 2-4 weeks after the second stage of the root canal treatment. Filling of the root canal involves specialised rubber gutta percha points, which are placed into the root canals before the canal is sealed. A final filling will be placed after it is sealed in the meantime until the crown is placed to help strengthen the tooth.

Aftercare

After receiving treatment root canal aftercare is essential.

- An antibiotic and some pain medication may be prescribed. If antibiotics are prescribed it is important that you take the prescription, as prescribed until it is done. Use pain medication as needed.
- It is normal for the tooth to be sore to bite on for one to two weeks. It should settle down after this period of time.

Over time, a tooth that has had root canal therapy becomes brittle. It is recommended that a crown be placed to protect the tooth from fracture.