

Root Canal Therapy

Root canal therapy (also known as root canal treatment) is necessary when the pulp of your tooth becomes inflamed or infected. The inflammation or infection can have a variety of causes such as deep decay in a tooth, a crack in a tooth or trauma to a tooth. Root canal treatment involves thoroughly cleaning, disinfecting and shaping the tiny channels that run through your tooth. Front teeth have just one or two of these channels whereas back teeth have between 2 and 5 channels. With appropriate care a root canal treatment can be a comfortable procedure that allows you to preserve the tooth for many years to come.



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DENTAL CARE



Tooth decay approaches the nerve in your tooth.



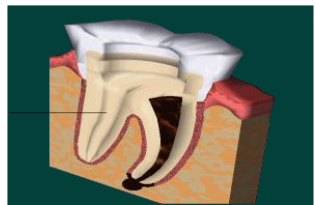
As the decay gets very close to the nerve you may feel sensitivity or pain



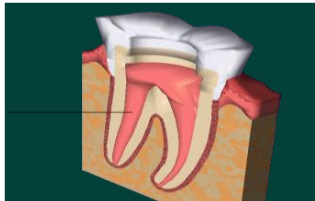
Untreated, eventually the nerve dies.



This eventually leads to an abscess



The channels in your teeth are cleaned shaped and disinfected



Once sterilised, the tooth is filled from the tips of the roots all the way to the surface.

Advantages

This treatment allows you to save your natural tooth. Loss of a tooth can destabilise your bite or cause additional loads to be placed on your remaining teeth. Generally saving a natural tooth is a better option than having it removed and then trying to replace it. The process is in most cases entirely painless. As an additional benefit we also offer a peace of mind guarantee for any tooth root treated in our practice for the first time.

Disadvantages

Although root treatment is a very successful process (more than 90% of root treatments are successful) , there can be no guarantees of success in an individual case. While we endeavour to provide most root treatments in a single visit, some situations necessitate more than one visit.

What to expect

There may be a small amount of discomfort for a few days afterwards, however this is usually easily managed with analgesics. Your dentist will provide advice tailored to your own situation.

Lifespan

With thorough home care and regular examinations it is likely that your root treated tooth will last for many years to come. Best practice now advises that any root treated tooth should receive a crown afterwards to restore its strength.