

## ENDODONTIC (ROOT CANAL) INFORMED CONSENT

1. The purpose of root canal therapy is to retain teeth that would otherwise have to be extracted.
2. Treatment may require multiple visits. It is important that you maintain scheduled appointments or the infection can reoccur.
3. In most cases, there is only mild discomfort following each treatment. This is usually controlled with aspirin, Tylenol, ibuprofen or prescribed medication.
4. Endodontic treatment has a high degree of success. As any medical or dental treatment, however, this treatment has no guarantee of success for any length of time. Teeth with previous root canal treatment will have a lower success rate.
5. Accurate and complete disclosure of medical information is necessary for proper diagnosis, and to help prevent unnecessary complications during your treatment.
6. The most common complications with root canal therapy include, but are not limited to:
  - A. Continued infection requiring endodontic (root canal) surgery or extraction of the tooth.
  - B. Calcified canals or canals blocked by broken instruments requiring endodontic (root canal) surgery or extraction of the tooth.
  - C. Pain, requiring use of medication.
  - D. Side effects and reactions to medication.
  - E. Fractures (breaking) of the root or crown of the tooth during or after treatment. It is recommended that all posterior teeth be crowned following root canal treatment. If your tooth already has a crown, there is a chance it will need to be replaced due to decay or loss of structural support. Porcelain crowns are subject to breakage.
  - F. Tenderness of the tooth following treatment due to possible complications with root canal treatment, gum disease, physical stress from chewing, or the degree of healing your body exhibits.
  - G. Numbness after the injection, root canal treatment or endodontic surgery which may be transient or permanent.
7. Other treatment choices include no treatment, waiting for more definite development of symptoms and tooth extraction. Risks involved in these choices might include pain, infection, swelling, loss of teeth, and infection to other areas.
8. It is usual and customary when surgery is done to take a biopsy. The patient is responsible for the cost of the biopsy. These biopsies are usually sent to the University of Florida. You will receive a bill directly from them.
9. After treatment you should return to your general dentist for appropriate restorative measure which may include a filling, post and core build-up or a crown.
10. If you have any questions, please ask.

"I have read and understand the above, and hereby consent to treatment."