

Eggert Family Dentistry

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Instructions after Root Canal Therapy

After root canal therapy, some degree of discomfort is normal. It is common for this discomfort to last 3-5 days or even more, depending on the status of your tooth before the root canal was done. Some factors that may increase the amount of time needed for healing and relief of pain include

- how much pain you had before the root canal
- how large your infection was
- the amount of manipulation needed to treat your tooth
- your individual reaction to dental work in general

Usually an over-the-counter pain reliever will be recommended for the initial 3-5 day period after treatment. Use ibuprofen or Tylenol as directed. Occasionally, a prescription for a stronger pain medicine or a prescription for an antibiotic will be given and should also be taken as directed.

It is best to avoid chewing on the tooth that had the root canal until the discomfort subsides. It is also a good idea to brush and floss gently around the root canal site.

At times, you may experience a flare-up of pain and swelling in the area. Please call right away if this is the case for you. We can be reached at 651-482-8412 during office hours and the after hour emergency number is 612-845-2929.

It is important to follow-up with us to finish any other recommended work on the tooth after having the root canal done. Mostly likely the tooth will also need a crown placed or a permanent filling completed. Doing this recommended follow-up treatment will give the ultimate success rate with the root canal and prolong the life of the tooth even further.