

# Concerning Your Treatment:

Thank you for your attention during our consultation. We hope that your treatment options have been satisfactorily explained. My staff and I have prepared this summary so that you will have it as a reference when you return home. It may also help you explain our services to someone else.

Endodontic, or root canal therapy, is a specialized dental procedure performed to safely and comfortably retain your tooth. An endodontically treated, well-restored tooth is vastly superior to the best artificial replacement. Financially, it is usually more advantageous to retain a tooth than to have it extracted and a replacement made. If a tooth is extracted and not replaced, there are disadvantages of reduced chewing ability, shifting of teeth and increased susceptibility to periodontal disease.

A root canal is necessary when the pulp in the center of the tooth is damaged, inflamed or infected. This can occur with tooth fracture, decay or from pulp tissue damage from large fillings. When infected pulp tissue is removed, healing can occur. Left untreated, pus builds up at the root tip forming an abscess that can destroy the supporting bone that surrounds the tooth.

Some people refer to the pulp as the nerve of the tooth. However, since much more is present than nerve tissue (blood and lymph vessels, for example) pulp is a more accurate term. Unfortunately, pulp tissue has a very poor ability to heal after injury. So the choice is either to retain the tooth or remove the pulp and retain the tooth.

In order to treat the inside of the tooth, we will make an opening in the biting surface. This opening enables us to

clean, shape and seal the inside. A rubber dam, which is similar to a surgical drape, is placed over the tooth during treatment to keep saliva out of the tooth and materials out of your mouth. Endodontic treatment is usually accomplished in one to three appointments.

Through root canal therapy, we indirectly treat the bone at the tip of the root. We do so by treating the canal space, effectively isolating the canal from the bone.

Although root canal therapy has a very high degree of success, it is still a biological procedure, so it cannot be guaranteed. Success of endodontic treatment depends on the health of the patient and the ability of one's body to repair damage. Occasionally, a tooth which has had root canal therapy may require retreatment, surgery or even extraction.

Some temporary discomfort following treatment is not unusual. When there has been previous discomfort or infection, it is sometimes necessary to use medications to provide relief. We will do all that we can to make your visits comfortable and to return your tooth - and you - to a state of health.

Only root canal treatments and internal tooth build-ups are performed in our office. A permanent restoration (filling, cap, crown) will be done by your regular dentist.

If you have any questions regarding your treatment, please ask. You will find that your treatment is prompt: it is our office policy to stay on schedule. However, unforeseen emergency cases arise in which the relief of pain for someone else becomes of utmost importance. This may cause a delay and we appreciate your understanding.

We can be reached, 24 hours a day at (281) 316-2411. Thank you.

## PROBLEM

- TREATMENT OPTIONS:  
 NO TREATMENT - PAIN, INFECTION  
 EXTRACTION - SPACE, BRIDGE, IMPLANT, DENTURE  
 ROOT CANAL BUILD UP, FINAL RESTORATION-

## FINDINGS:

## PROGNOSIS:

## COMPLICATIONS:

- POSSIBLE NEED FOR A SURGICAL FOLLOW-UP (APICOECTOMY) SEPARATE PROCEDURE - ORAL SURGEON  
 POSSIBLE NEED FOR AN EXTRACTION - GENERAL DENTIST / ORAL SURGEON

\*FINAL RESTORATION IS PLACED BY YOUR GENERAL DENTIST  
 PLEASE CONTACT YOUR DENTIST AS SOON AS POSSIBLE



## CONVENTIONAL ENDODONTIC TREATMENT

## INTERNAL POST AND CORE BUILDUP:

## SURGERY:

I have received and understand this cost estimate, treatment plan, and information on the back

X  
 Patient's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

CLEAR LAKE ENDODONTICS, P.A.

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Practice Limited To Endodontics

A \$100 FEE PER HOUR WILL BE ASSESSED FOR FAILED/MISSED APPOINTMENTS