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## **Post-Operative Instructions**

#### What should I expect after my root canal?

Your tooth and its surrounding gum tissues may be tender for several days. This is a result of the problem that brought you into our office as well as the endodontic treatment. This is normal and part of the healing process. Please expect your tooth to be sore for 3-5 days. Some patients may have discomfort for as long as 2 weeks.

#### How should I manage my discomfort?

Most post-operative symptoms respond very well to ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin or store brand). If you can't take ibuprofen, take acetaminophen (Tylenol or store brand). For the most effective pain management, please begin medications before the numbness wears off, follow dosing instructions and don't skip a dose because this allows the discomfort to intensify. Please take the medications as needed for the next several days.

## What if I have questions?

For general questions please call the office during regular business hours. If you have a concern after hours, please call the office and the phone number of the doctor on call will be available to you.

# Completing the care of your tooth

Root canal treatment is only one step in returning your tooth to full function. A proper final restoration or crown is necessary for long-term success.

## Guidelines for Post -Operative care

- ✓ Do not eat anything until the numbness wears off
- ✓ Take medication as directed
- ✓ Be careful chewing on your tooth until it has a crown
- ✓ Be sure to brush and floss your teeth as you normally would
- ✓ Contact our office if you experience any of the following: visible moderate to severe swelling, any discomfort that you feel is out of the ordinary or your bite feels high or uneven.