



SUGAR LAND ENDODONTICS

ENDODONTIC INFORMATION AND CONSENT

We would like you to be informed about the various procedures involved in root canal (endodontic) treatment and have your consent before beginning treatment. Root canal treatment is performed in an attempt to save a tooth that may otherwise need to be removed. **An exam and X-rays will be needed to make the correct diagnosis.** We hope the following information will help you make the best-informed decision regarding your treatment needs.

What is root canal treatment? Root canal treatment is the procedure of cleaning and filling the inside of a tooth that has become diseased or infected. Your treatment may take more than one visit, and you may experience some soreness and discomfort in and around the tooth being treated. Root canal treatment, followed with a sealing and protective **restoration, placed by your general dentist within 1 month**, may allow the tooth to remain in the mouth for many years.

What are the risks of root canal treatment? Although root canal treatment has a very high degree of success, it is a biological procedure, and therefore **results cannot be guaranteed.** Occasionally, a tooth, that has undergone root canal treatment, may require re-treatment, surgery, or even extraction. Other side effects, or risks include, but are not limited to, pain, infection, swelling, perforations (extra openings) of the tooth, and damage to existing restorations such as crowns or fillings.

During treatment, complications may be discovered which compromise or make treatment impossible, or which require dental surgery. These complications may include, but are not limited to, blocked canals due to fillings or posts, prior root canal treatment, natural calcifications, broken instruments, curved roots, periodontal (gum) disease, and/or cracks or fractures of the teeth.

If you are opting to be orally sedated, the prescribed medications may cause drowsiness, lack of awareness and coordination, and impair decision-making skills. These effects may also be intensified by the use of alcohol, tranquilizers, sedatives or other drugs. It is not advisable to operate any vehicle or hazardous device until recovered from the effects of these medications.

What are the alternatives to root canal treatment? Alternatives to root canal treatment include no treatment, waiting for more definitive symptoms to occur, and tooth extraction. Risks involved in these choices include pain, infection, swelling, and eventual loss of teeth.

What are my responsibilities? Please understand that **only the root canal treatment is to be performed at this office.** After your root canal is completed, it is essential that you **return to your general dentist so that he or she may select and place the proper restoration within 1 month.** If your tooth remains uncomfortable for more than two weeks, you are asked to let us know before having a final restoration placed.

By signing below you acknowledge that you have read this document, understand the information presented, and authorize the doctor to perform the described procedures, and any additional procedures that he or she may deem necessary to the welfare of the patient during the authorized services. You also acknowledge that no guarantees concerning the result of the planned procedures have been given.

Patient Name (printed) _____

Patient Signature _____ Date: _____

Parent's or Guardian's Signature: _____ Date: _____