

102 Village Street, Suite B
Slidell, LA 70458
(985) 643 – 4600

Consent to Perform Endodontic Treatment

Endodontic treatment (root canal therapy) is a procedure to save a tooth, which may otherwise require extraction. In general terms, endodontic treatment is the procedure in which diseased pulp tissue is removed from inside (endo) the tooth (odont). The root canal is cleaned, shaped, disinfected, and filled to seal the tooth and prevent further infection.

I, the undersigned, have been informed of the following facts about endodontic treatment:

1. Although endodontic treatment has a high degree of clinical success, a small percentage of teeth are lost despite competent endodontic care owing to persistent infections or other complications. Extraction of the tooth may be necessary in these instances.
2. Sometimes, healing can occur with additional treatment, such as: re-treatment of the tooth or surgery on the root.
3. Refusal of the recommended endodontic treatment will most likely result in:
 - *The loss of the tooth
 - *Bone destruction due to abscess
 - *Possible systemic infection (an infection affecting the whole body)
4. Slight to moderate transient postoperative pain may occur: severe postoperative pain occurs in very few cases.
5. Although extremely rare, serious post-operative infection of the head and neck could occur, which may require additional treatment, including hospitalization.
6. Very small instruments are used during endodontic treatment. Although rare, it is possible for an instrument to break during the procedure and become permanently lodged in the tooth. This could possibly interfere with healing.
7. It is possible that during the course of endodontic treatment, an instrument may perforate the root wall. Repair, surgery, or extraction may then be necessary.
8. When making access (opening) through an existing crown or placing a rubber dam clamp, damage to the crown could occur, such as porcelain fracture. A new crown could be necessary.
9. Successful completion of endodontic treatment does not prevent future decay or fracture.
10. Temporary fillings are usually placed after endodontic treatment. Full restoration (usually a crown) should be placed by your dentist 2 – 6 weeks after completion of root canal therapy. Delaying this restoration may result in loss of the temporary filling with possible re-infection or fracture of the tooth.
11. There are risks involved in the administration of anesthetics, analgesics (pain medication), and antibiotics. Although rare, risks include allergic reaction and temporary or permanent injury to nerves and/or blood vessels.
12. During retreatment of a root canal procedure, there is risk with root canal fillings that all of the filling may not be able to be removed and could effect the overall prognosis of the tooth.

***I have informed the doctor of any previous side effects or allergies.**

Date

Patient or Patient's Guardian

Date

Witness to Signature