



Office Location: 1666 Marine Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11234

CONSENT FOR ROOT CANAL THERAPY

TOOTH # _____

1. Root canal therapy is about 95 percent successful. Many factors influence the treatment outcome. The patient's general health, bone support around the tooth, strength of the tooth including possible fracture lines, shape and condition of the root and nerve canals etc.
2. Teeth treated with root canals must be protected during treatment. Between appointments, your tooth will have temporary cement filling. If this should come out, please call the office and arrange to have it replaced.
3. The tooth may normally be tender following appointments and remain so for a time after treatment is completed. If this persists and does not seem to be getting better even several weeks after the root canal is finished, please let the doctor know.
4. Fractures are one of the main reasons why root canals fail. Unfortunately, some cracks that extend from the crown down into the tooth are invisible and hard to detect. They can occur on uncrowned teeth from traumatic injury, biting on hard objects, habitual clenching or grinding, or even normal wear and tear. Whether the fracture occurs before or after the root canal, it may require extraction of the tooth.
5. Since teeth with root canals are more brittle than other teeth, the dentist will probably recommend a crown to prevent future fracture damage. This is especially important with molar and bicuspid teeth.
6. Teeth treated with root canals can still decay, but since the nerve is gone, there will be no pain. As with other teeth, the proper care of these teeth consists of good home care, a sensible diet and periodic dental checkups.
7. With some teeth, conventional root canal therapy alone may not be sufficient. For example if the canals were severely bent or calcified, if there is substantial or long-standing infection in the bone around the roots, or if a file becomes separated within a canal, the tooth may remain sensitive and surgical procedure may be necessary to resolve the problem.
8. There are alternatives to root canal therapy. They include no treatment at all, extraction with nothing to fill the space and extraction followed by a bridge, partial denture, or implant to fill the space.

The nature of root canal therapy has been explained to me and I have had a chance to have my questions answered. I understand that dentistry is not an exact science and success with root canals cannot be guaranteed. In light of the above information, I authorize the doctor to proceed with treatment.

Patient Name (*Print*): _____

Patient Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Guardian (if patient is a minor): _____

Doctor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Witness Signature: _____ Date: _____