

# **Post-Operative Instructions: Root Canals**

1. Be sure to take antibiotics as instructed.
2. If opened to drain, a bad taste is usually present during drainage. This drainage is releasing pressure, and should relieve pain over a relatively short period of time.
3. Do NOT place heat on the outside of face. This could draw the infection to the outside of the face and then drain there. Use warm salt rinses inside the mouth only. This will cause softening of swelling, and allow infection to come to a head and drain.
4. Soreness for 2-3 days is common after root canal therapy. Healing occurs after removal of the remnants of the canal and placement of medication.
5. If it feels high in the bite, call office for appointment to have it adjusted.
6. If swelling does not subside or worsens despite being on antibiotics, please call us. The doctor may change your antibiotics.
7. Most teeth that have had a root canal become much weaker than the original tooth, and will need a crown to strengthen the tooth

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