

ADVICE FOLLOWING ROOT CANAL TREATMENT

- Some post-treatment discomfort is to be expected, especially if you were experiencing pain from your tooth before treatment. This is due to your body's chemicals fighting the problem and if they are already pumped into the area this cannot be 'switched off' immediately - it will take some time to disperse - usually 24 to 48 hours.
- If you have pain from the tooth before treatment, we suggest that you take your usual analgesic one-hour post treatment before the local anaesthetic has worn off. In most cases this will be all you require.
- Unless you have a medical condition that contraindicates taking ibuprofen, this is the medicament of choice. The usual dose would be 400mg taken four hourly. In severe cases, which are not controlled by this, 600mg may be taken four hourly and 2 hours later Paracetamol, two 500mg tablets 4 times daily. The maximum dose for either drug should not be exceeded.
- The tooth may be tender to bite on for some days after the first and second appointments, although it is much more likely to give discomfort after the initial opening and cleaning of the root canals than after the filling appointment. Some patient's chemicals are more 'geared up' than others - ready to react to any treatment.
- If the tooth settles soon after treatment but becomes painful after three or four days, with associated swelling, this may be due to a bacterial problem inside the canals. Please call us if this happens, as you may be one of the few patients per year who require the tooth to be washed out again mid-treatment.
- Sometimes the medicaments we place in the canal system at the initial appointment knock out the 'policing' bacteria first allowing others to breed.
- Antibiotics are rarely necessary.
- The tooth will probably still be tender to bite on for a few days or even weeks after completion of treatment - as the area of tissue surrounding the tips of the roots heals this will gradually improve. Whilst you wait for your tooth to be crowned be careful when biting hard food stuffs - root-filled teeth are more prone to fracture.

IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS PLEASE DO CALL US ON 01494 891133