

# ENDODONTIC CONSENT AND INFORMATION FORM

## ROOT CANAL THERAPY, ANESTHETICS, AND MEDICATIONS

We would like to inform you of the various procedures involved in endodontic therapy and have your consent before starting treatment. Endodontic (Root Canal) therapy is performed in order to save a tooth which otherwise might need to be removed. This is accomplished by conservative root canal therapy. The following discusses possible risks that may occur from endodontic treatment and other treatment choices.

**RISKS:** Included (but not limited to) are complications resulting from the use of dental instruments, drugs, sedation, medicines, analgesics (pain killers), anesthetics, and injections. These complications include: swelling, bleeding; infection; numbness and tingling sensation in the lip, tongue, chin, gums, cheeks, and teeth, which is transient but on rare occasion may be permanent; reaction to injections; changes in occlusion (biting); jaw muscle cramps and spasms; nausea, vomiting, allergic reactions, delayed healing, sinus perforations, and treatment failure.

**RISKS MORE SPECIFIC TO ENDODONTIC TREATMENT:** The risks include the possibility of instruments broken within the root canal; perforations (extra openings) of the crown or root of the tooth; damage to bridges, existing fillings, crowns or porcelain veneers, loss of tooth structure in gaining access to canals, and cracked teeth. During treatment, complications may be discovered that make treatment impossible, or which may require dental surgery. These complications may include: blocked canals due to fillings or prior treatment, natural calcifications, broken instruments, curved roots, periodontal disease (gum disease), splits or fractures of the teeth.

Although root canal therapy has a very high degree of clinical success, it is a dental procedure and cannot be guaranteed. Variations in anatomy and canal locations may compromise success. Occasionally, a tooth which has had root canal therapy may require re-treatment, surgery or even extraction.

**MEDICATIONS:** Prescribed medications and drugs may cause drowsiness, lack of coordination, and lack of awareness (which may 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 the medication or drugs. If taking antibiotics, oral contraception may not be as effective.

**OTHER TREATMENT CHOICES:** These include no treatment, waiting for more definite development of symptoms, or tooth extractions. Risks involved in these choices might include pain, infections, swelling, loss of teeth, and infection to other areas.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

My questions have been answered to my satisfaction. I have carefully read the above statements and give my consent for the procedure.

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SIGNATURE OF PATIENT OR GUARDIAN

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DATE