

Endodontic X-rays

X-rays are still needed in order to diagnose and fully assess the extent of damage to the inner tooth, but digital radiography is now used and this has 70% lower radiation levels than traditional x-rays.

Endodontic Technology

The accuracy of the endodontic instruments has also increased over the years in order to give the best possible care. Fibre optic illumination along with tiny video cameras mounted on microscopes will give more detailed images of the tooth than has ever been previously possible. The length of the root canal can now be gauged down to 0.5mm due to the use of sophisticated apex locators. Ultrasonics are also used in the endodontics department that ensure accurate location and preparation of the root canals.

Post Endodontic Treatment

After root canal treatment all records of the operation will be sent back to your own dentist. There may be further restorative work needed and this can be performed by your regular dentist. Once the treatment has taken place it is rare that any follow up work will need to be performed by the endodontist.

Although it is quite possible for a dentist to perform routine root canal treatment, the endodontist will be there to perform the more complicated root canal work. If your dentist has referred you to a dentist with special interest in endodontics it is nothing to worry about. The dentist is simply making sure that your teeth get the best attention possible; your dental health is your dentist's first priority.

Welcome to our world of modern dentistry, a world where you matter most, whether you are visiting us for health, hygiene or cosmetic treatment.

We take a refreshing view on the role of a dentist. To us, the single most important part of the work we do is the wellbeing of our patients – before, during and after the technical process of dentistry.

We'll make sure you feel reassured before work starts – that you know what we are going to do, why we are doing it and what the result will be.

Then we'll make sure that you are as comfortable as possible during treatment – we use low-invasive techniques and the very latest equipment in a clinic that's peaceful and relaxing.

And finally, we give you a smile to be proud of: having a smile you like is one of the most important factors in your confidence level. And the more confident you are, the happier you are!



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ENDODONTIC TREATMENT

Patient Information



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Root Canal Treatment over the years

Root canal treatment and other endodontic procedures have evolved a great deal in the last few years. Through endodontics it is now possible to predict, treat and save a tooth that, just years ago, would have required extraction.

At The Evergreen Dental Centre our highly skilled dentist with special interest in endodontics will be pleased to discuss endodontic treatment with you should this area of dentistry be required as part of your personal treatment plan. You will be greeted by friendly, knowledgeable dental professionals who can guide you through treatment and ensure you know all you need to about endodontics.

Endodontics is the name given to a field of dentistry that is concerned with the inner workings of the tooth. Endodontists or dentists with special interest in Endodontics are usually dentists who have more interest in this field and have taken additional training to become qualified. Root canal therapy is one of the most common dental treatments in the field of endodontics.

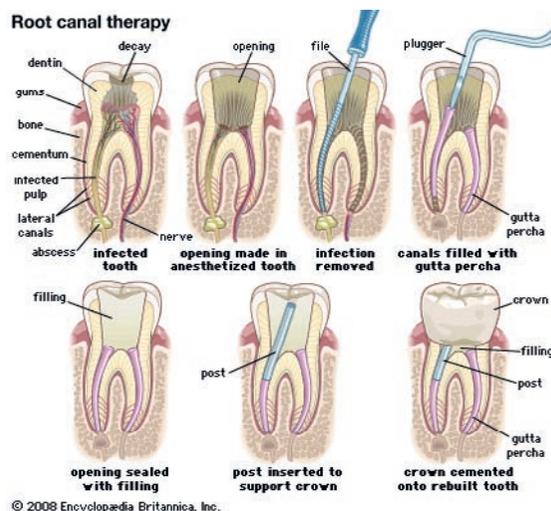
Dentist or Endodontist

General dentists are usually qualified and quite able to perform root canal treatment but certain circumstances may arise where the dentist will refer you to a dentist experienced in endodontics. It may be the case that your first root canal treatment was not successful and special equipment is required. It could be that the dentist does not feel suitably qualified to perform the treatment on certain teeth that have a more complex anatomy, such as the back molars. Whatever the reason, if you have been referred to us it means your dentist is concerned with the welfare of your teeth and wants you to be in the best hands of our dentist with special interest in Endodontics.

Root Canal Therapy

Root canal treatment is the largest procedure in the field of endodontics. Depending on the number of teeth undergoing treatment and the location of the teeth, it can be a complex procedure. Root canal therapy will be needed when the pulp tissue of the inner tooth becomes infected. This can be caused due to infections such as periodontal disease or it can be caused by decay to the tooth.

The tooth will then need to be drilled and the bacteria and tissue will need to be removed. The root canal that has been cleaned will then be filled and sealed. Depending on the tooth, there may be only one canal to be cleared or there may be multiple canals in the one tooth. The alternative to endodontic treatment will usually be tooth extraction.



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The Root Canal Treatment Procedure

1. Tooth Evaluation

The first stage of a root canal procedure is for your dentist to carefully evaluate your tooth to ensure that endodontics is the best treatment option for you. Dental x-rays will form part of this evaluation

process so that your dentist can look under the surface of your tooth to assess the bone and structures of the root.

2. Local Anaesthetic

After numbing your tooth with a local anaesthetic, your dentist will place a special cover over your tooth called a dental dam. This protects your airway whilst the endodontic treatment is being completed and also prevents saliva contaminating the tooth. Your dentist will then remove any filling in your tooth and use a special drill to expose the nerve. This should be entirely painless.

3. Root Cleansing

Your dentist will remove the diseased nerve and will cleanse and shape the canals in your root so that an ideal root filling can be placed.

4. Temporary Filling

Often your dentist will put a special antiseptic into your tooth and then put in a temporary filling. You will then wait a few days to have the root filling completed.

5. Root Filling

Finally, your dentist will place a special root filling material into your root canals and then put a filling in your tooth. It is often the case that your tooth will require extra protection from fracture and so often a crown or inlay/onlay will be the best way to achieve this protection in the longer term.

Endodontic Processes

The advancement in the field of endodontics means that it has now become a recognised field of dentistry in its own right. Over the years the technology used in the field has advanced and highly sophisticated equipment is used in all endodontic procedures.