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Boutique Private General and Cosmetic Dentistry.

Your dentist has recommended a root canal treatment on your tooth.

In general, over 90% of routine cases are successful. Endodontics, as with any branch of medicine or dentistry, is not an exact science. Therefore, no guarantee of treatment success can be given or implied. You may also choose to decline treatment at this time and understand the risks in not having treatment at this time include, but are not limited to, pain, swelling, infection, increased bone loss, and eventual tooth loss. Alternative options include extraction of the tooth.

Before starting treatments you should take time to understand the following:

Risks: *Are unlikely, but may occur. They might include but are not limited to:*

- a) Instrument separation in the canal.
- b) Perforations (extra openings) of the canal with instruments.
- c) Blocked root canals that cannot be ideally completed.
- d) Incomplete healing.
- e) Post-operative infection requiring additional treatment or the use of antibiotics.
- f) Tooth and/or root fracture that may require extraction.
- g) Fracture, chipping, or loosening of existing tooth or crown.
- h) Post-treatment discomfort.
- i) Temporary or permanent numbness.
- j) Change in the bite or jaw joint difficulty (TMJ problems or TMD).
- k) Medical problems may occur if I do not have the root canal completed.
- l) Reactions to anesthetics, chemicals or medications.

When we start the root treatment we may reveal that the root treatment has a poorer prognosis that was expected if this is the case then we will inform you and discuss your options.

If the case is not successful, the treatment may have to be redone, the patient may need to see another clinician, a surgical procedure maybe required, or the tooth extracted. In each instance, an additional charge will be made.

Proper post-treatment restoration (usually but not always a crown) is a necessity. The cost of this permanent restoration is not included in the cost of the Root Canal Treatment; any delay in having the permanent restoration can result in a failure of the treatment, and the need, perhaps, for an extraction.

Treatment will be performed in accordance with accepted methods of clinical practice. Included in the therapy will be the taking of a minimal number of radiographs (x-rays) as dictated by the requirements of the case. No charge will normally be made for x-rays that are taken at the practice which are part of the Root Canal treatment.

I realize that failure to complete the treatment or failure to keep to a time schedule can reduce the success rate dramatically. This includes the importance of having the permanent restoration placed after the Root Canal Treatment is completed

Periodic recall examination is always recommended to evaluate the healing after treatment and further charges may be associated with these additional visits.

It is essential to follow the treatment plan and keep appointments as delays can mean failure of the whole treatment. This applies to the Root Canal Treatment as well as the placing of the permanent restoration.