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## **ENDODONTIC (ROOT CANAL) POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS**

**DISCOMFORT** - Discomfort or soreness in the area is normal for a few days. This occurs because of existing infection and inflammation of the gum and tooth ligaments as well as the manipulation of the tooth during treatment. The gums may be sore and the tooth is often tender to biting or chewing. If pain does not subside or worsens, please contact us.

**PAIN MEDICATION** - The best combination for pain relief is alternating between Ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin) 600 mg taken every 8 hours and Acetaminophen (Tylenol) 1000 mg taken every 8 hours. These medications will help with pain, inflammation, and swelling. If you cannot take these medications, consult your pharmacist or our office.

**WEAKENED STATE** - If the final restoration has not been completed, your tooth is in a weakened state after endodontic treatment. The tooth is prone to fracture if you bite down on anything too hard or crunchy; please be careful.

**FINAL RESTORATIONS** - Teeth that have had endodontic (root canal) treatment have been weakened by previous decay and fillings. You need to have a permanent filling or a crown placed on your tooth as soon as possible to stabilize it. Delay in obtaining a final restoration may result in fracture or loss of the tooth.