

# Root Canal Treatment



Clarence Street  
DENTAL Group

Having an infected tooth can negatively affect both your dental and medical health. If left untreated, you may have limited options resulting in the need to remove the tooth. The good news is that we have caught this in time to treat your tooth with root canal therapy. Here is some information to help you understand the best treatment for you:

## What is a root canal?

It is a procedure in which we repair and save your tooth by removing the nerve. It is typically needed when there is a deep cavity affecting the pulp or from a trauma that has damaged the nerve of the tooth. Your symptoms might be sensitivity to hot or cold, sweets or pressure. You may also have swelling and pain that can stem from an infection. The roots of your tooth stay intact while the nerve is removed which is the cause of the pain and infection.

## Will it hurt?

Most patients don't feel any pain or discomfort as root canal treatment is very similar to having a filling done. The only reason you might feel discomfort is if there is infection present causing the freezing not to take. When needed, the doctor prescribes you antibiotics to take prior to having this treatment completed.

## Will this prolong the life of my tooth?

After the root canal is complete the tooth is no longer vital and will be at a higher risk of fracturing and breaking. The doctor will likely recommend a crown for your tooth once the root canal is complete and the infection is completely gone to prolong the life of the tooth.

## Should I just pull my tooth instead?

While removing your tooth is a faster, less expensive method of treatment, we do find that most people often regret having the tooth removed. They usually miss that tooth for chewing, for esthetics, or their other teeth start shifting. Because of these issues from the tooth being gone, people often then start looking into replacement options which are considerably more expensive than if they had proceeded with the root canal treatment.

