

## **ROOT CANAL TREATMENT POSTOPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS**

- (1) Avoid chewing on this treated tooth for 20 minutes after your appointment, to allow the temporary restoration that has been placed time to harden. Avoid chewing foods on this tooth that are sticky, hard, or chewy until after you have the final restoration placed by your dentist.
- (2) It is normal for some tenderness and chewing sensitivity to be present in the area for several days. If this occurs, taking pain medications that are approved by your physician such as acetaminophen (Tylenol), aspirin, or ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil) will usually restore comfort. If discomfort develops that is not controlled by these pain medications, or if swelling or other problems develop, please phone for instructions.
- (3) It is essential that you contact your dentist for prompt restoration of your tooth once the root canal is completed. Delay in restoring your tooth may lead to failure of the root canal due to fracture of the tooth. Failure of your root canal treatment may also occur from leakage of saliva into the root canal filling material, regardless of how well sealed your temporary filling appears to be from the outside. Unless directed otherwise by Dr. Grote or Dr. Foreman, you should have this tooth restored by your general dentist within two months after completion of this root canal treatment. If the temporary filling in this tooth is lost, please contact Dr. Grote, Dr. Foreman, or your general dentist to have this replaced within a few days.