

# SPENCE

## FAMILY DENTISTRY

PAUL B. SPENCE, DDS

### Informed Consent for Non-Surgical Root Canal Therapy

Patient's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Procedure \_\_\_\_\_

Root Canal Therapy involves the removal of inflamed, infected, or necrotic (dead) nerve tissue from the root canal system of a tooth and sealing the root canal system to prevent further infection of the tooth and surrounding structures. As with all dental procedures, root canal procedures have risks that you have the right to be informed of in order to make the decision to undergo the planned procedure. These risks include, but are not limited to the following:

- **General risk** of any dental procedure include but are not limited to: swelling, sensitivity, allergy to anesthetic or other medications, infection, cold sores, prolonged or permanent numbness or tingling sensation in the lip, tongue, chin, gums, cheeks, and teeth, muscle soreness and cramps, TMJ soreness, and treatment failure.
- **Instrument breakage**- Instruments used to clean and shape the root canal can break while in the canal and can become lodged into the canal making them non-retrievable. Additional treatment may be needed depending on the specific circumstances of the breakage.
- **Chemical irritation**- Various chemicals are used to aid in cleaning and shaping the root canal system. These chemical can irritate tissues including the gums and underlying bone necessitating further treatment or procedures.
- **Damage to tooth** including perforation of the tooth or cracking of the tooth may necessitating further treatment including possible extraction of the tooth.
- Even after successful completion of the root canal, there is the risk of reinfection necessitating **retreatment or surgical endodontic treatment**.
- **Damage to existing restorations** including fillings, crowns, bridges, and veneers necessitating them to be remade at the patients expense.
- During treatment, complication may arise making root canal therapy impossible including but not limited to filling from prior treatment, natural calcification of the canal, and curved roots.
- After most root canals, it is necessary to **place a crown on the treated tooth** to stabilize and strengthen the tooth. Failure to do so can lead to the tooth cracking or breaking necessitating extraction of the tooth.

I have read this form and discussed the possible complications and risks associated with my root canal therapy with Dr. Spence and all my questions have been answered satisfactorily. I understand the doctor may discover other or different conditions that may require additional or different procedures from those planned. I give consent to the planned procedure.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient's or Legal Guardian's Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness' Signature Date

