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**Consultation Information and Informed Consent for Endodontic Treatment (Root Canal)**

The staff and the doctors hope you enjoy coming to our office for endodontic consultation and treatment. We strive to provide the best possible endodontic treatment for our patients in a comfortable, friendly and relaxed environment utilizing the latest state of the art equipment and techniques.

***What is involved in Endodontic (Root Canal) Treatment?***

A local anesthetic is usually given. An opening is made through the top or crown of the tooth to gain access to the pulp chamber and the pulp canals. During treatment, the chamber and canal(s) will be cleaned, shaped, disinfected and then obturated (sealed) with a root canal filling. This usually takes one to three appointments to accomplish. Antibiotic and anti-inflammatory medications may also be recommended in conjunction with endodontic treatment to help alleviate infection and symptoms.

Occasionally, other medications will be prescribed by the doctor. Medications prescribed for discomfort and/or sedation may cause drowsiness, which can be increased by the use of alcohol or other drugs. We advise that you do not operate a motor vehicle or any hazardous device while taking such medications. In addition, certain medications may cause allergic reactions, such as hives or intestinal discomfort. If any of these problems occur, contact us immediately. For medical emergencies call 911. It is the patient's responsibility to report any changes in his/her medical history.

I understand the root canal therapy is a procedure that retains a tooth, which may otherwise require extraction. As a specialty practice, this office performs only endodontic therapy and associated surgery. Although root canal therapy has a very high degree of success, results cannot be guaranteed. Occasionally, a tooth, which has had root canal therapy, may require retreatment, surgery, or even extraction. Following treatment, the tooth may be brittle and subject to fracture. A restoration (filling), crown and/or post and core will be necessary to restore the tooth, and your general dentist will perform these procedures. During endodontic treatment, there is the possibility of instrument separation within the root canals, perforations (extra openings), damage to bridges, existing fillings, crowns or porcelain veneers, missed canals, loss of tooth structure in gaining access to canals, and fractured teeth. Also, there are times when a minor surgical procedure may be indicated or when the tooth may not be amenable to endodontic treatment at all.

Other treatment choices include no treatment, a waiting period for more definitive symptoms to develop, or tooth extraction. Risks involved in those choices might include, but are not limited to, pain, infection, swelling, loss of teeth, and infection to other areas.

All of my questions have been answered and I fully understand the above statements in this consent form.

Furthermore, I give Gulf Coast Endodontic Associates my permission to voice record, tape digitally, videotape and/or take 35mm and/or digital photos of my procedure for purposes of completing my medical record and/or for patient education.

**Note: All medical records will be kept strictly confidential.**

Patient (Print Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Patient (Signature) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

(If patient is under the age of 18, the signature of a parent or guardian is required.)

