

Our Mission Statement:

“Our aim is to deliver the highest standard of care in a comfortable and friendly environment”



CASTLE DENTAL CARE
we'll take care of you

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Opening Hours

Monday 9am - 5.00 pm
Tuesday 10am - 5.00pm
Wednesday 8.30am - 4.30pm
Thursday 8.30am - 4.30pm
Friday 8.30am - 3.45 pm

Wheelchair access is available



BDA
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member

Tell me about

Root Canal Treatment





What is a root canal treatment?

A root canal treatment is needed when the nerve or blood supply to the tooth is compromised, due to infection through injury or decay. This infection can spread and cause an abscess, (gum boil). If damage to the nerve is irreversible, your dentist will clean the space where the nerve is and seal it to prevent further infection.

Why do I need root canal treatment?

If the tooth is not treated by root canal treatment the infection can get worse leading to the loss of the tooth. Symptoms of an abscess/gum boil can vary from a dull ache to severe pain and the tooth may be tender to bite on. Root canal treatment is a means to remove the infection from the tooth thus preventing any further infection.

What does root canal treatment involve?

On your first appointment the dentist will clean and shape the root canal using fine metal instruments called files. A local anaesthetic will be used so you will not feel any pain. The tooth is isolated using a clamp and rubber dam. Root treatments often take multiple appointments depending on a number of factors such as the shape of the nerve canal, the infection present and how quickly the infection settles. A temporary filling will be placed and the tooth is left to settle. At the next visit the tooth will be checked and if all the infection has cleared a permanent filling will be placed.

What happens after my root canal treatment?

Root treated teeth are often very brittle due to the damage they have endured. Therefore, your dentist will often suggest protecting the tooth with a crown as it is vulnerable to breaking.

Root canal treatment is usually very successful. However, if the infection comes back, the treatment can sometimes be repeated.



What after care do I require?

Root treated teeth should be cared for just like your normal teeth, by brushing twice daily with a fluoride toothpaste and regular interdental cleaning with floss or interdental brushes.

What are the risks?

- The files used when carrying out root canal treatment can break within the tooth, If this happens, the dentist can sometimes leave a broken piece of the file in place and the tooth monitored. The dentist may refer the case to a specialist to remove the file. Your dentist will talk to you about any specific risks in your case.
- There is a risk of failure of the treatment working. Unfortunately, success cannot be guaranteed particularly if the teeth have complex nerve canals.
- The tooth can fracture.
- You may experience tenderness and soreness in the mouth after treatment.
 - A swelling may occur.
 - Complex cases may require a referral.

Are there any alternatives to having root canal treatment?

The alternative is to have the tooth taken out. It is not recommended to leave an infected tooth in the mouth.