

APICOECTOMY INFORMED CONSENT

Patient Name: _____

Date: _____

I understand dentistry is not an exact science and there is no guarantee of results. When undergoing an Apicoectomy there are certain risks and the potential for unsuccessful results.

An Apicoectomy is a common endodontic treatment which is necessitated in the rare instance there is inflammation or infection at the tip of the root subsequent to root canal therapy. An incision is made in the gum tissue near the affected tooth and the inflamed or infected tissue is removed and the area filled and sealed. The gum is then sutured with small stitches. Additional tests may be performed on the infected/inflamed tissue which was removed.

The benefit of an Apicoectomy will be relief of current symptoms and avoiding the spread of infection to other teeth, damaging oral health.

Alternatives to an Apicoectomy depend on the diagnosis; however the most common alternatives are:

- Extraction of the tooth/teeth;
- Extraction followed by an implant and crown;
- Extraction followed by a bridge or partial denture and;
- No treatment which could worsen the condition leading to severe pain and swelling, infection which could be fatal, and/or loss of the tooth/teeth.

An Apicoectomy, like all dental care has risks. The most common risks associated with this treatment include but are not limited to:

- Swelling, bruising and discomfort postoperatively;
- Bleeding and postoperative infection accompanied by malaise or fever which may require immediate additional treatment;
- Injury to a nerve resulting in numbness, burning or tingling of the chin, lip, cheek, gum on the side on this the procedure in being performed as well as loss of taste in the case of the tongue. These nerve injuries can last for several weeks, months or in rare instances, be permanent;
- Drug and medication reactions, although rare, may occur. These reactions could include redness, swelling, pain, itching, vomiting and/or anaphylactic shock;
- Sinus involvement which would require additional surgery and;
- Recession of gums away from the crown exposing more tooth and/or root.

Prior to surgery, an antibiotic or anti-inflammatory medication may be prescribed to treat the inflammation or infection. It should be noted antibiotics may interfere with the effectiveness of oral contraceptives. Therefore, additional forms of birth control for one complete cycle should be utilized after the course of antibiotics is completed.

Additional appointments after the surgery may be required to monitor healing of the surgery site.

By signing below, I am acknowledging I have read or had this document read to me in its entirety, have had the chance to ask questions and have them answered to my satisfaction so that I feel I understand the information as it is presented. I understand the potential risks, complications and side effects. I have elected to proceed with this dental treatment after having considered both the known and unknown risks, complications, side effects and alternative treatment methods.

Patient (or Legal Guardian) Signature: _____

Patient Printed Name: _____

Date: _____

Doctor's Signature: _____

Date: _____

SAMPLE