

CONSENT FOR SURGICAL ROOT CANAL TREATMENT

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Patient's Name

Date

Please initial each paragraph after reading. If you have any questions, please ask your doctor BEFORE initialing.

You have the right to be informed about your diagnosis and planned surgery so that you may make the decision as to whether to undergo a procedure after knowing the risks and benefits.

Your diagnosis is: _____

Your planned surgery is: _____

Alternative treatment methods include: _____

It has been explained to me that certain risks and complications are associated with my surgery, which include (but are not limited to):

- _____ 1. Bleeding, swelling, soreness, bruising, infection, stretching of the corners of the mouth, stiffness of the jaw joints (TMJ), unexpected drug reactions or allergies, fracture of the jaw or portions of bone supporting teeth, and difficulty eating for several days.
- _____ 2. Although usually only one incision is needed to approach the root end to be treated, sometimes the approach is complicated enough to require other incisions.
- _____ 3. There may be injury to sensory nerves in the area of the surgery, resulting in pain, tingling, numbness or other sensory disturbances in the chin, lips, gums, cheek or tongue (including possible loss of taste sensation) which may persist for several weeks, months or, in rare instances, may be permanent.
- _____ 4. When operating on upper back teeth, there is a chance of entering the sinus. This may require additional care, including antibiotics, and may possibly result in an opening between mouth and sinus that may require further care. Rarely, the same complication may involve the nasal cavity.
- _____ 5. Certain filling materials used to "plug" the end of the tooth's root canal may cause some discoloration of the overlying gum tissue.
- _____ 6. On occasion, the tooth root may be found to be cracked, greatly reducing the success of the planned treatment. The end result may be extraction of the tooth.
- _____ 7. Surgical root canal treatment is not so exact that success is always guaranteed. Thus, re-treatment is a possibility and, because of hidden microscopic cracks in root structure or other biologic considerations, the tooth may eventually fail and require removal.

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- _____ 8. Because of the proximity of adjacent tooth roots, there is a slight chance that these teeth may lose their vitality and require future root canal treatment or may even be lost.
- _____ 9. It has been explained that during the course of treatment unforeseen conditions may be revealed that may require changes in the planned procedure. I authorize my doctor and staff to use professional judgment to perform such additional procedures that are necessary and desirable to complete my surgery.
- _____ 10. **ANESTHESIA**
The anesthetic I have chosen for my surgery is:
 Local Anesthesia
 Local Anesthesia with Nitrous Oxide/Oxygen Analgesia
 Local Anesthesia with Oral Premedication
 Local Anesthesia with Intravenous Sedation
 General Anesthesia
- _____ 11. **ANESTHETIC RISKS** include: discomfort, swelling, bruising, infection, allergic reactions and prolonged numbness at the IV site. There may be inflammation at the site of an intravenous injection (phlebitis) that may cause prolonged discomfort and/or disability and may require special care. Nausea and vomiting, although uncommon, may be unfortunate side effects of IV anesthesia. Intravenous anesthesia is a serious medical procedure and, although considered safe, does carry with it the rare risks of heart irregularities, heart attack, stroke, brain damage and even death.
- _____ 12. **YOUR OBLIGATIONS IF IV ANESTHESIA IS USED:**
A. Because anesthetic medications cause prolonged drowsiness, you **MUST** be accompanied by a responsible adult to drive you home and stay with you until you are sufficiently recovered to care for yourself. This may be up to 24 hours.
B. During recovery time (24 hours) you should not drive, operate complicated machinery or devices, or make important decisions such as signing documents, etc.
C. You must have a completely empty stomach. **IT IS VITAL THAT YOU HAVE NOTHING TO EAT OR DRINK FOR SIX (6) HOURS PRIOR TO YOUR ANESTHETIC. TO DO OTHERWISE MAY BE LIFE-THREATENING!**
D. **However**, it is important that you take any regular medications (high blood pressure, antibiotics, etc.) or any medications provided by this office, **using only a small sip of water.**

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CONSENT

It has been explained to me, and I fully understand, that a perfect result is not or cannot be guaranteed. I certify that I speak, read and write English and have read and fully understand this consent for surgery, have had my questions answered and that all blanks were filled in prior to my initials or signature.

Patient's (or Legal Guardian's) Signature

Date

Doctor's Signature

Date

Witness' Signature

Date