



HAVEN GREEN CLINIC

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DENTISTRY

Endodontic Techniques

When a nerve is exposed by decay, or is killed by the damage, the root becomes infected and an abscess forms in the bone at the end of the root. To save the tooth all the canals must be located, cleaned, widened, measured, and sealed to the correct length. The sealant is usually gutta percha and an antiseptic paste. Although the sealants are “foreign bodies,” if confined to the canal and not protruding, they allow the bone to heal. The number of canals varies. Incisors usually have a single canal, premolars have one or two canals, and molars have two or more. The upper first molar has three or more.

Difficulties with Endodontics;

- Unable to locate the entrances to the nerve canals.
- Unable to penetrate the canals.
- Unable to negotiate sharp curves of roots.
- Risk of file fracture.
- Risk of perforation of the floor of nerve chamber.
- Risk of going through the end of the root.

Endodontic Technique;

In order to aid the cleaning process with files, and to prevent their fracture we use;

- Brand new files for each patient.
- Lubricating medium, E.D.T.A. which dissolves the secondary dentine, the deposit which often blocks the canal.
- Irrigation with sodium hypochlorite (bleach) to clean and sterilize the canal between each file use.
- Special endodontic hand-piece which rotates through 180 degrees only, to reduce the rotational force and the tendency to screw inwards.
- Electronic apex locator to measure the length to the apex.
- X-ray to inspect the position of the filler points prior to filling.

If, despite the operator’s best endeavours, a file does fracture, the canal can sometimes be sealed with it in situ. It may need no further action. If it is protruding beyond the end of the root then it must be removed either from the inside, which is very difficult, or the tip can be cut off. This technique, called apicectomy, is a very successful remedy. Powerful microscopes used by endodontists, aid vision, allowing them to perform cases general practitioners do not attempt.

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YOUR DENTAL HEALTH IS OUR PRIORITY