

# Saving teeth with Root canal treatment

**If your tooth nerve or pulp is irreversibly infected then we recommend a Root Canal Treatment (also called “endodontic” treatment) in order to save your natural tooth.**

Using the latest technology we can now complete your root canal treatment comfortably and in much less time (sometimes just one visit) than was previously possible.

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## Why is a root canal treatment necessary?

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An infected tooth pulp means your tooth is dying. Root canal treatment is necessary to save your tooth so that you can continue to use it in the future.

Saving your tooth for future use is better and less costly than losing the tooth and having to use dentures, bridges or implants in the future.

Some causes of tooth nerve infection include:

- A deep cavity
- A dental trauma such as a knock or fall
- The breakdown of an old filling or crown
- A crack or chip in the tooth
- Extreme wear
- Extensive dental work in the past

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## How do I know if I need to have root canal treatment?

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We will be able to confirm at an appointment whether your situation requires a root canal.

As an indication, our patients usually report

some of the following symptoms:

- **Pain:** this can range from a dull ache all the way to severe and agonising pain.
- **Tooth sensitivity.**
- **Gum swelling or soreness.**

If your tooth pulp cannot repair itself, it will initially become inflamed. If not treated, it will die and then become infected.

Early treatment can make a big difference to the outcome, what we are able to save, reducing the risk of abscess and also to how much pain you have to endure.

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## How much is all this going to cost me?

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Root Canal Treatment is a complex procedure and the cost will vary depending on the type of tooth and difficulty of the treatment. In general the back teeth (molars) are more difficult to treat than front teeth.

Although the tooth extraction procedure is less expensive than a root canal, the gap left from removal of the infected tooth will need to be filled by a dental implant or a dental bridge and these are more expensive than saving a tooth in the long term.

If a gap is left unattended, this can lead to shifting of the surrounding teeth, poor bite and decreased chewing efficiency.

Preservation of your original teeth is always recommended as the best long term option.

If you are experiencing any tooth pain please contact us on [07 3856 2144](tel:0738562144) immediately. Our website has more on [Root Canal Treatment](#).