

INFORMATIONAL INFORMED CONSENT

APICOECTOMIES AND APICAL SURGERY

I UNDERSTAND that APICOECTOMIES include possible inherent risks such as, but not limited to the following:

1. Injury to the nerves: This would include injuries causing numbness of the lips; the tongue; and tissues of the mouth; and/or cheeks or face. This numbness which could occur may be of a temporary nature, lasting a few days, a few weeks; a few months; or could possibly be permanent, and could be the result of surgical procedures or anesthetic administration.
2. Bleeding, bruising, swelling: Bleeding may last several hours. If profuse, you must contact us as soon as possible. Some swelling is normal, but if severe, you should notify us. Bruises or hematomas may persist for some time.
3. Infection: No matter how carefully surgical sterility is maintained, it is possible, because of the existing non-sterile or infected oral environment, infections may occur postoperatively. At times these may be of a serious nature. Should severe swelling occur, particularly accompanied with fever or malaise, attention should be received as soon as possible.
4. Sinus or Mandibular Canal Involvement: In some cases, the roots of the teeth that are going to be surgically treated lie closer to anatomic structures such as the Maxillary Sinuses or to the Mandibular Canal may be perforated, or the nerves emanating from the mental nerve foramen (opening in the jaw bone) may be traumatized during the surgical procedure involved with removing the apices of the infected teeth. Such events can cause the numbness described in #1 above.
5. Injury to adjacent teeth or adjacent roots: There is a possibility of injury to an adjacent tooth or roots of teeth during the procedure. If an adjacent tooth is inadvertently nicked or otherwise damaged during the surgical procedures, conventional endodontic treatment, endodontic surgery, or extraction of the affected tooth may be required.
6. Bacterial endocarditis: Because of normal existence of bacteria in the oral cavity, the tissues of the heart, as a result of reasons known or unknown, may be susceptible to bacterial infection transmitted through blood vessels, and bacterial endocarditis (an infection of the heart) could occur. Pre-existing conditions causing valvular dysfunction are the most likely cause of this complication. It is my responsibility to inform the dentist of any heart problems known or suspected.
7. Failure: Even though the surgical procedure is properly performed, there exists the possibility that the attempt to preserve the tooth will fail due to the tooth and tissues not responding as they should, necessitating extraction of the tooth. Retrofills placed in the apicoectomy site may also leak or fail which can contribute to case failure.