

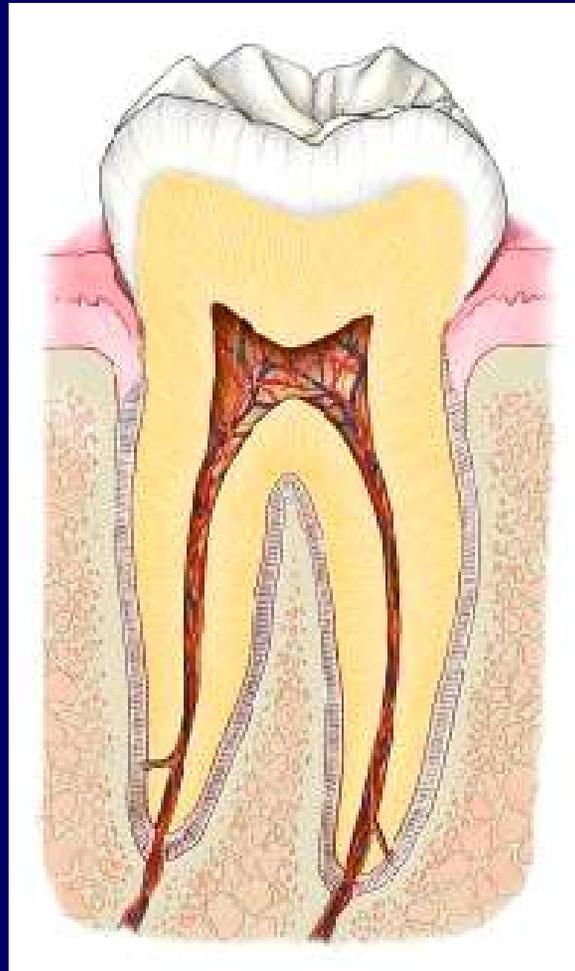
PURPOSE OF THE PRESENTAION:

1. Inform you about the procedure.
2. Help answer any questions.
3. When you have an office visit this will help to understand the x-rays.
4. Press the “**Down Arrow**” or “**Next Page**”key to view next slide

***Saving Your Tooth
Through Endodontic
(Root Canal) Treatment***

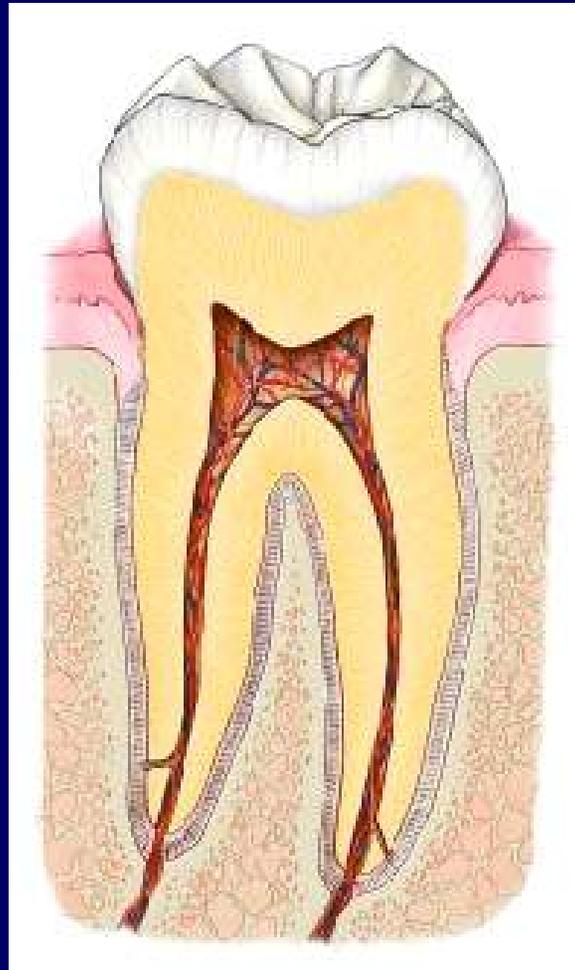
A decorative graphic consisting of multiple thin, parallel white horizontal lines that create a sense of depth and movement, tapering slightly at both ends.

A healthy tooth consists of a crown...



Crown

...and a root.



Crown

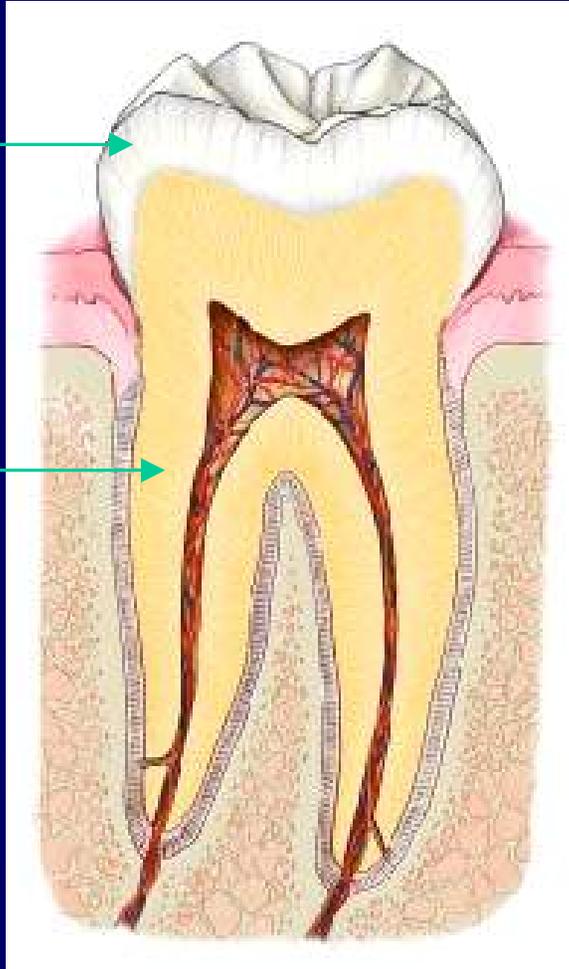
Root

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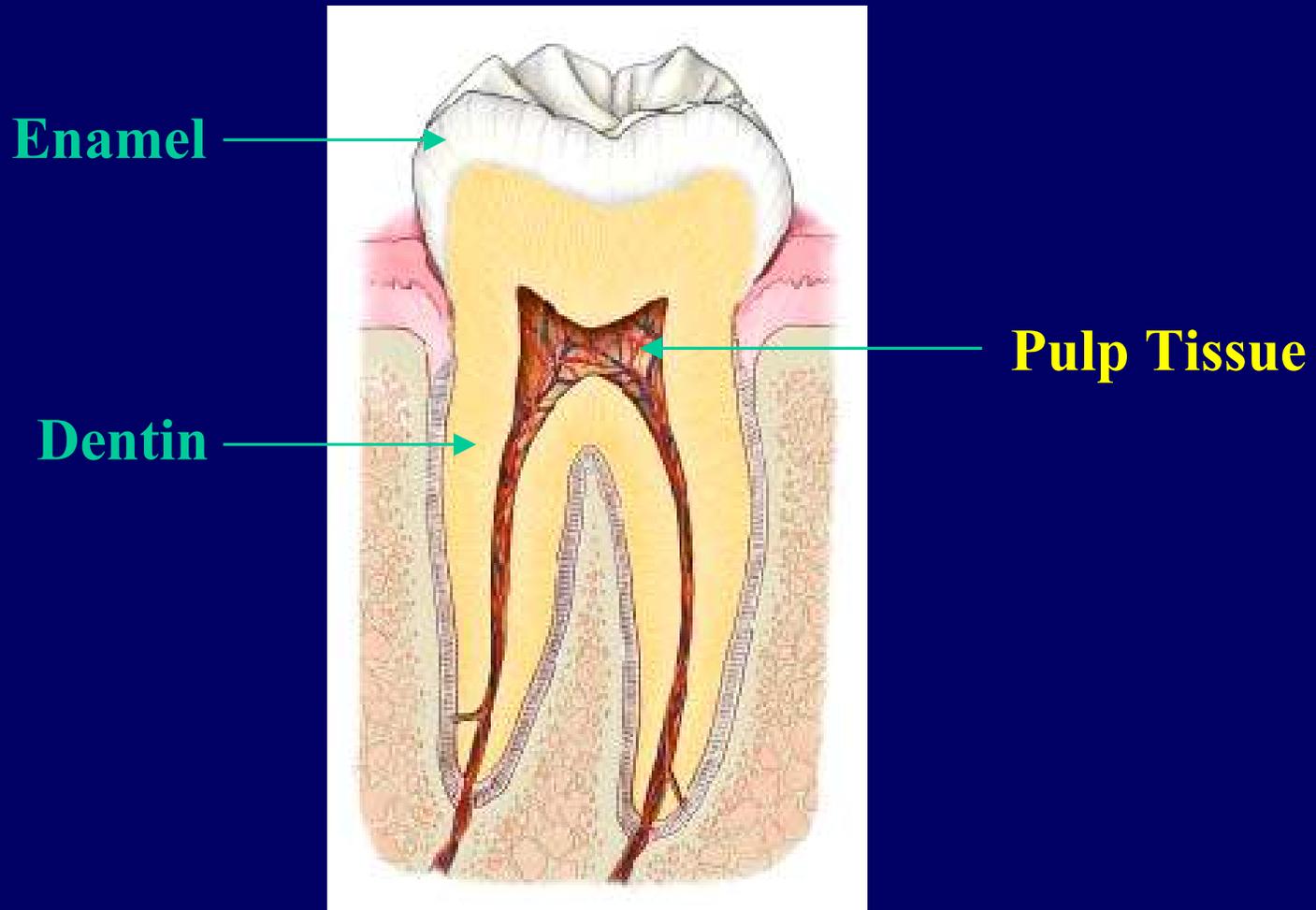
Under the hard layers of enamel and dentin...

Enamel

Dentin

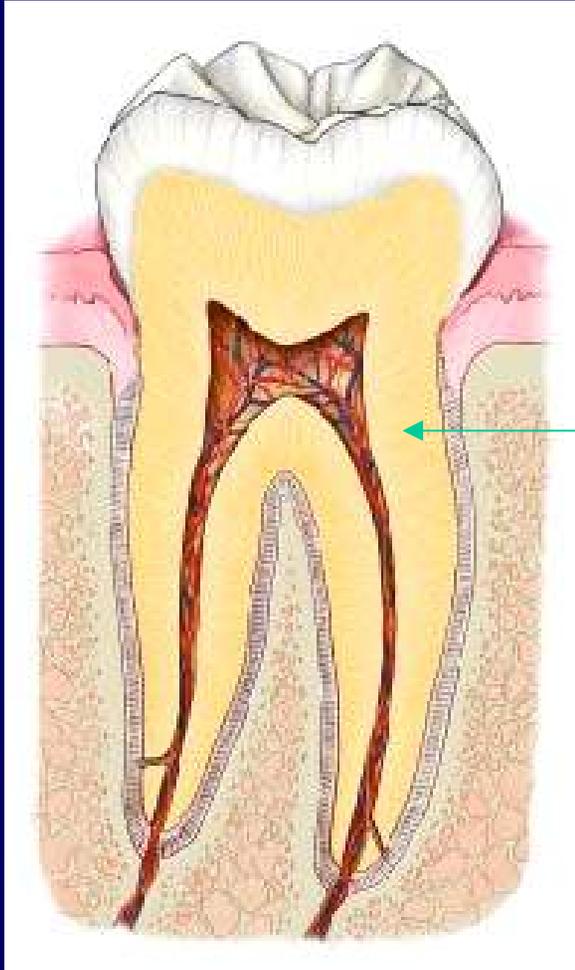


is soft tissue called **pulp**.



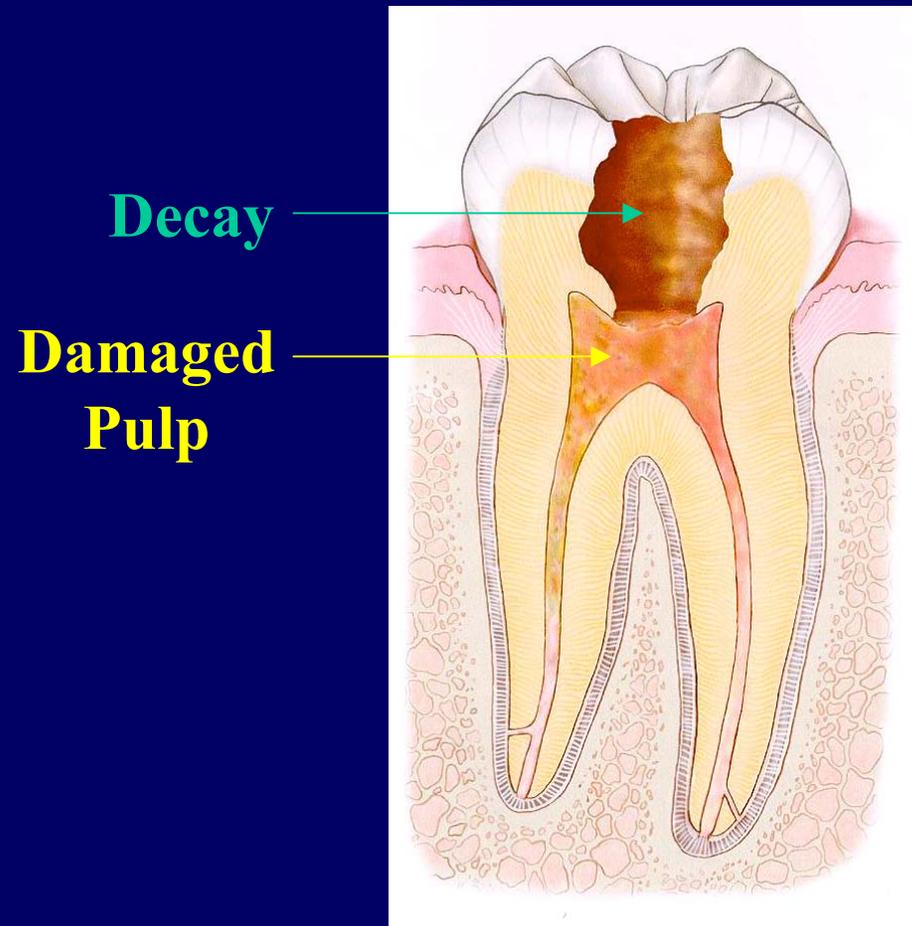
PULP CONTAINS:

- ◆ Specialized tooth cells
 - These can calcify the tooth
- ◆ Connective tissues
 - Arteries /Veins
- ◆ Nerve tissue.
- ◆ The pulp is often called
“The NERVE” of the tooth



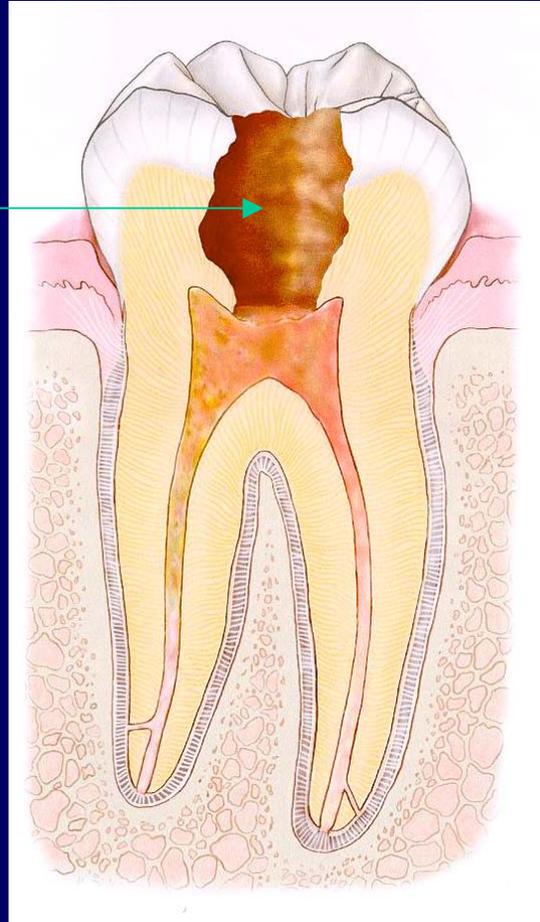
The pulp creates
dentin during tooth
development.
(Ages 2-18)

The pulp may become infected or damaged.



By: Injury... Decay... deep or repeated fillings to a tooth.

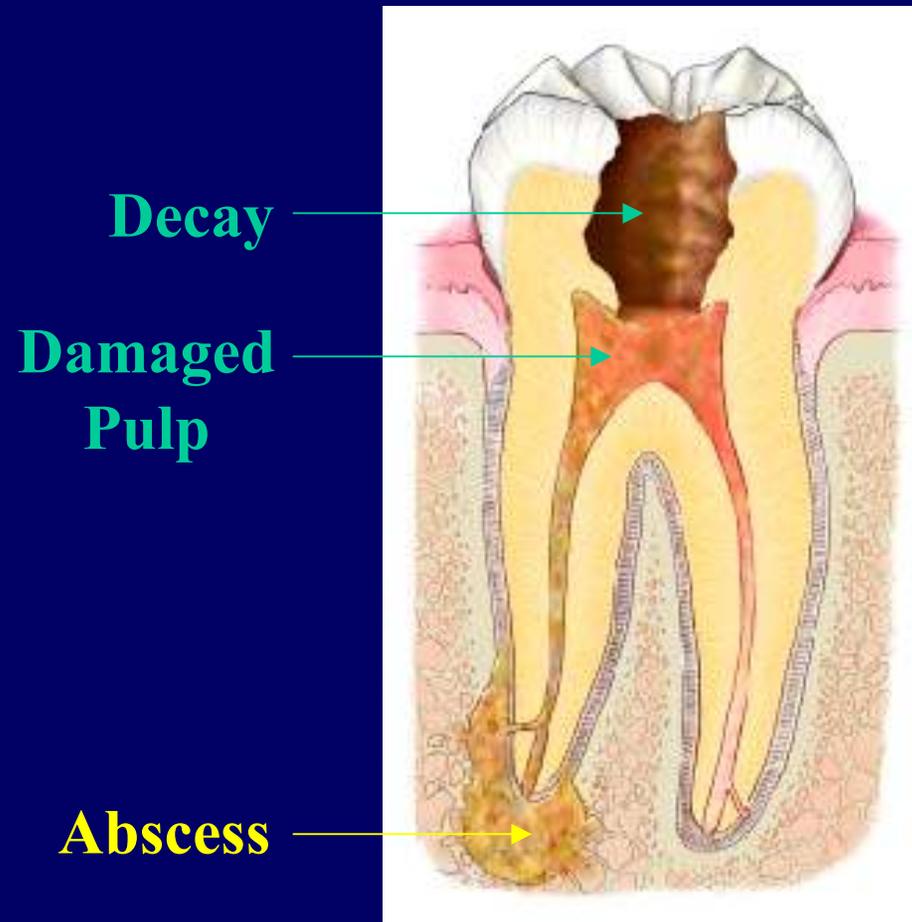
Decay



The Pulp (“Nerve”) of the tooth can become damaged or infected:

- ◆ Injury or trauma to the tooth
- ◆ UNTREATED deep decay into or near the pulp
- ◆ Deep decay which required deep FILLINGS or a crown to protect the tooth.

**If left untreated,
an abscess will form.**



How do “deep fillings” cause pulp problems??

- ◆ **Deep decay** leads to deep fillings.
- ◆ A crown is sometimes needed to protect the tooth from splitting.
- ◆ These repairs will sometimes lead to pulp “scarring”

How do “deep fillings” cause pulp problems??

- ◆ “Scarring” of the pulp may show on the x-ray as “calcifications” or hard tooth deposits inside the pulp chamber.
- ◆ This limits blood supply, and the pulp dies.

How do you know if the pulp of your tooth is damaged?



Signs of damaged pulp:

- ◆ May start with a hot or, more commonly, cold sensitivity
- ◆ Sometimes a sharp pain, throbbing pain, or spontaneous pain for no reason at all.

Signs of damaged pulp:

- ◆ As the inflammation moves outside your tooth, it will become tender to biting pressure, or touch.
- ◆ Next a tenderness develops around the tooth and deep in the jaw.

Signs of damaged pulp:

- ◆ Bone “eaten away” (a dark spot on the end of the root) is the first sign seen on an X-Ray.
- ◆ Your symptoms are important in making the earliest diagnosis possible.

Signs of damaged pulp:

- ◆ Next an abscess may form!
This is often seen as a swelling and tenderness in the gums.
- ◆ When bone is eaten away around the end of your tooth, portions of the tooth may also be destroyed.

**Sometimes there are
no symptoms.**



*Some endodontic problems are
only evident on an x-ray...*

During your

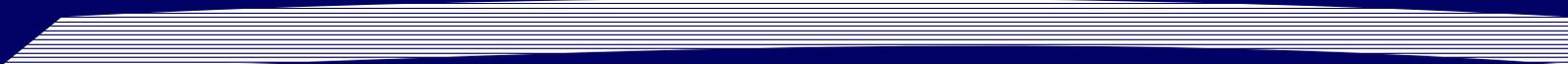
TREATMENT

**visit at our office, the following
steps are taken:**

Preparation for Treatment

- ◆ Tooth is examined
- ◆ Additional X-rays may be indicated
- ◆ Anesthetic is given
- ◆ Dental dam is placed

**A dental dam is a small sheet
of rubber that surrounds
the tooth.**



*It will isolate your tooth and keep
it clean during the procedure.*

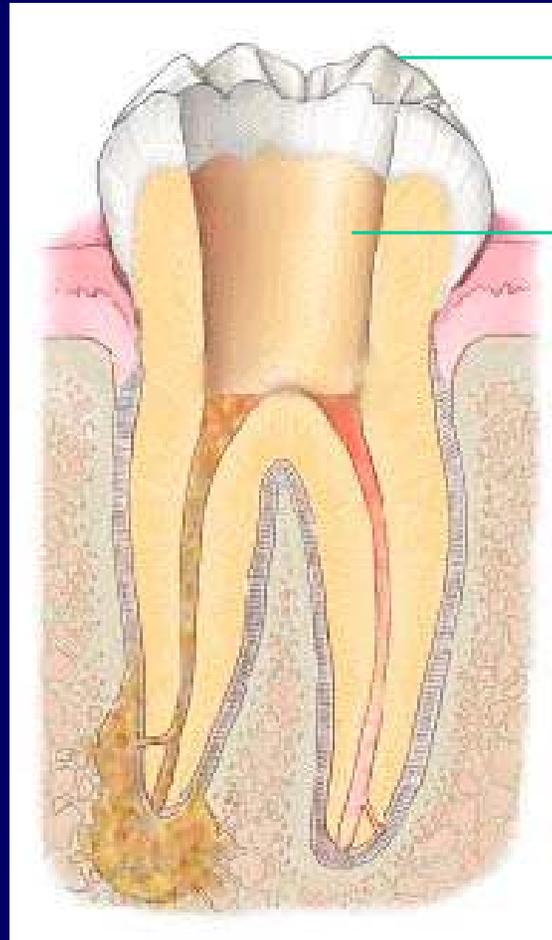
*As well as keep the debris out of
your mouth during treatment.*

**Once your tooth
is completely numb...**



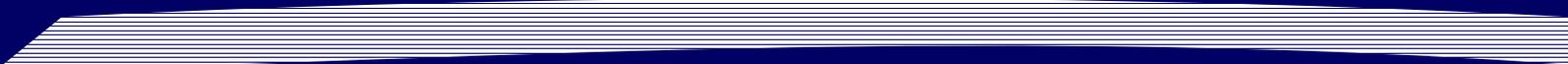
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**...I will make
an opening in the crown...**



**Access
Opening**

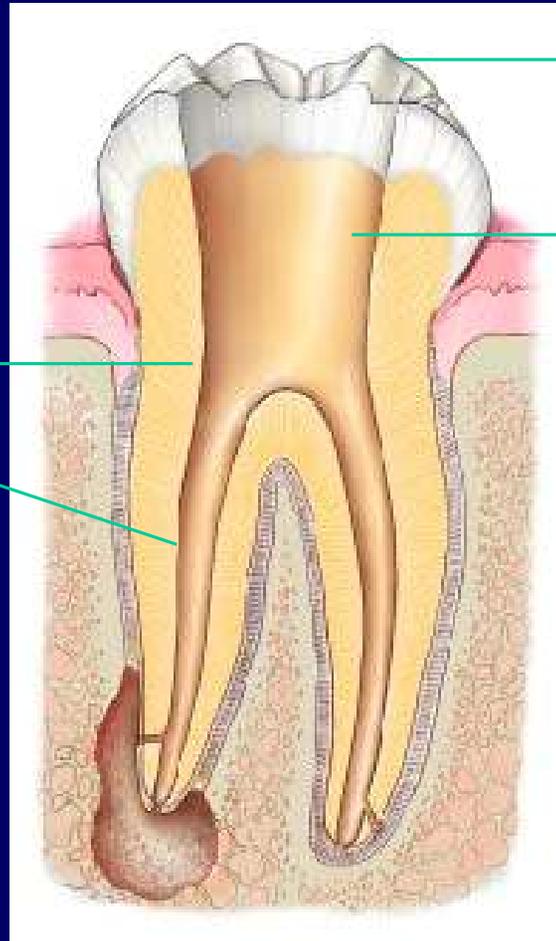
**A microscope may be used
to see more clearly deep
inside the tooth.**



*This allows for a much clearer
view when there are potential
problems*

**...then gently clean the pulp
from the pulp chamber...**

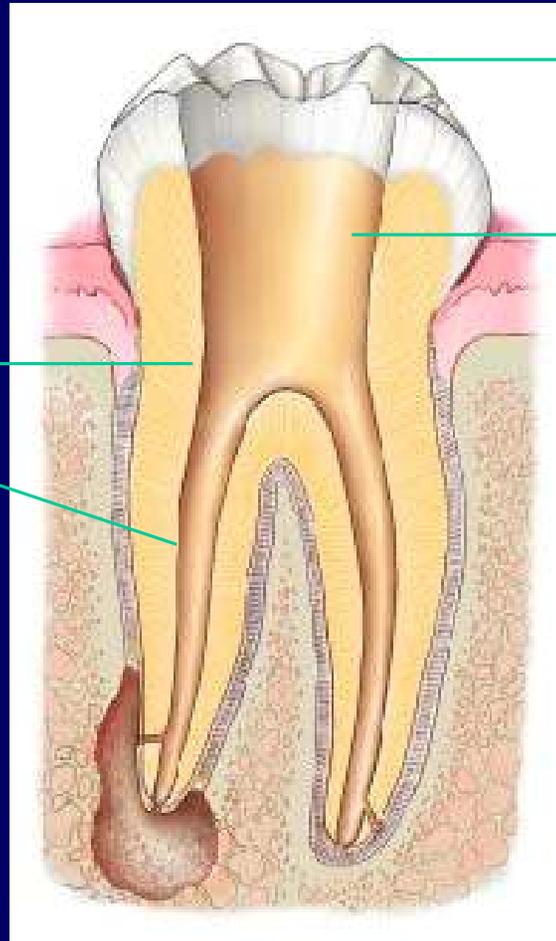
**Cleaned and Shaped
Pulp Chamber**



**Access
Opening**

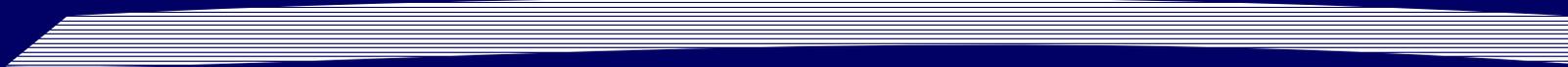
...and canals inside the roots.

**Cleaned and Shaped
Pulp Chamber
and Root Canal**



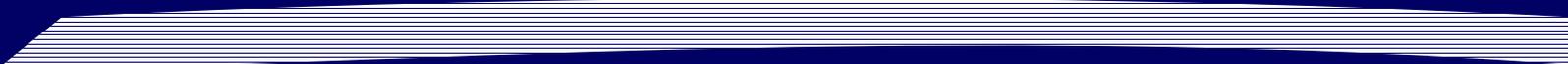
**Access
Opening**

**To clean in the canals I use
very small, thin instruments
called FILES.**



*The files look like a small thin
wire... it simply has file edges
along the outside*

**The first ones used are
10/100th of a millimeter.
That is 1/254th of an inch!!**



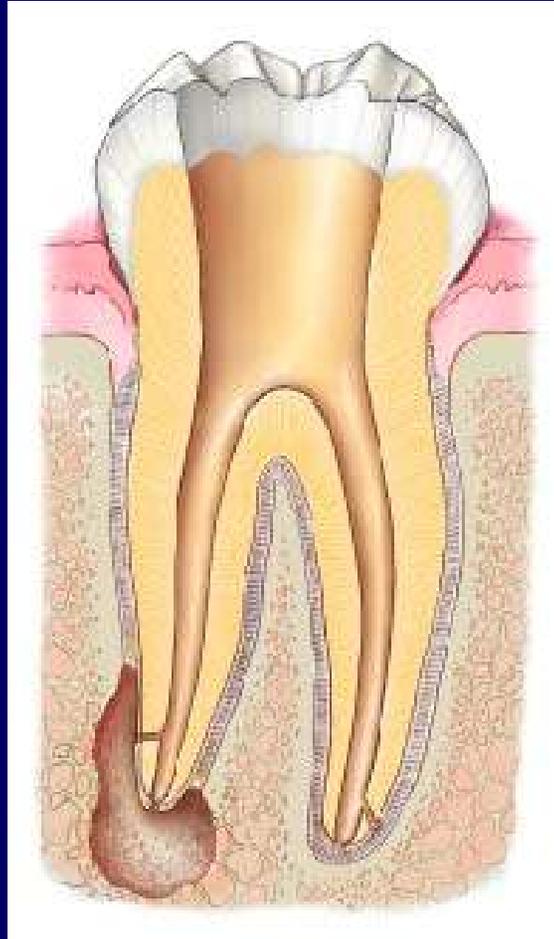
*So small they may occasionally
separate or break within the tooth.
This rarely causes a problem.*

**IF a file were to break, they are
so fine, they are often sealed
within the canal.**

It is not a cause for concern.

*I will certainly advise you, if any
difficulties occur during the procedure..*

**Once the root canals are cleaned
and shaped and disinfected...**



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OF ENDODONTISTS ©

...I will
fill the canals...



**Filled
Root Canals**

...with a rubber-like material called gutta-percha.



**Filled
Root Canals**

**At this time the root canal is
FINISHED, and the tooth must
be sealed**

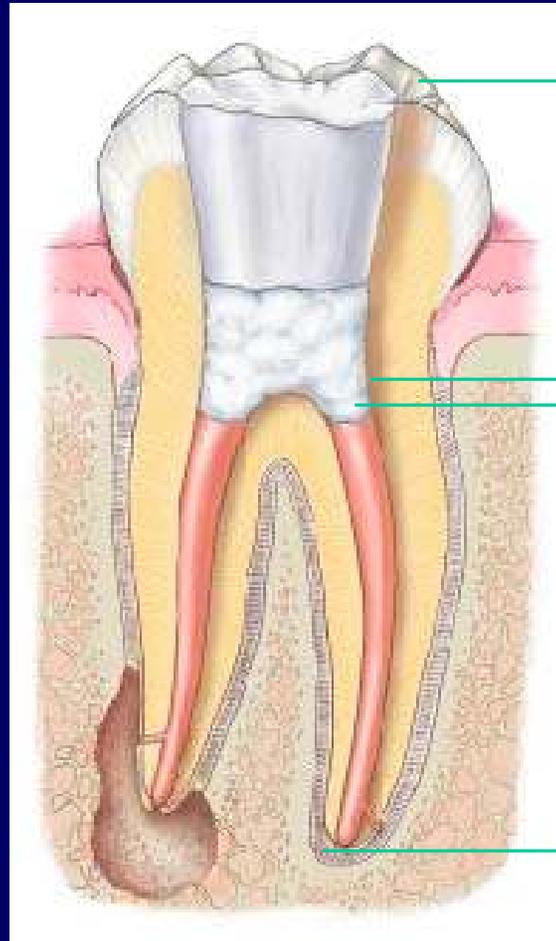


*Three kinds of sealing techniques
may be used.*

Sealing your ROOT CANAL

- ◆ Temporary seal
- ◆ Base (core) for a new crown
- ◆ Repair of an existing crown.

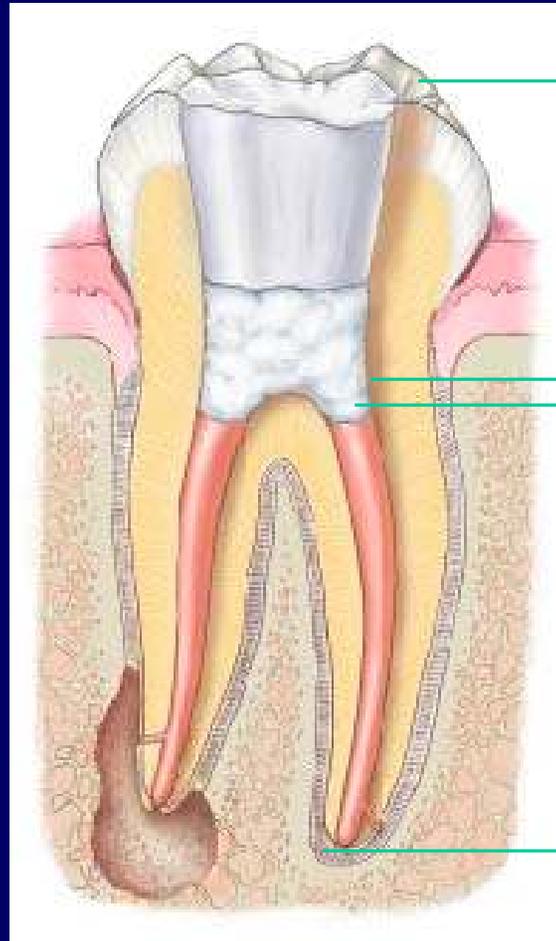
**A temporary seal is
not a filling.**



**Temporary
SEAL**

**Filled
Root Canals**

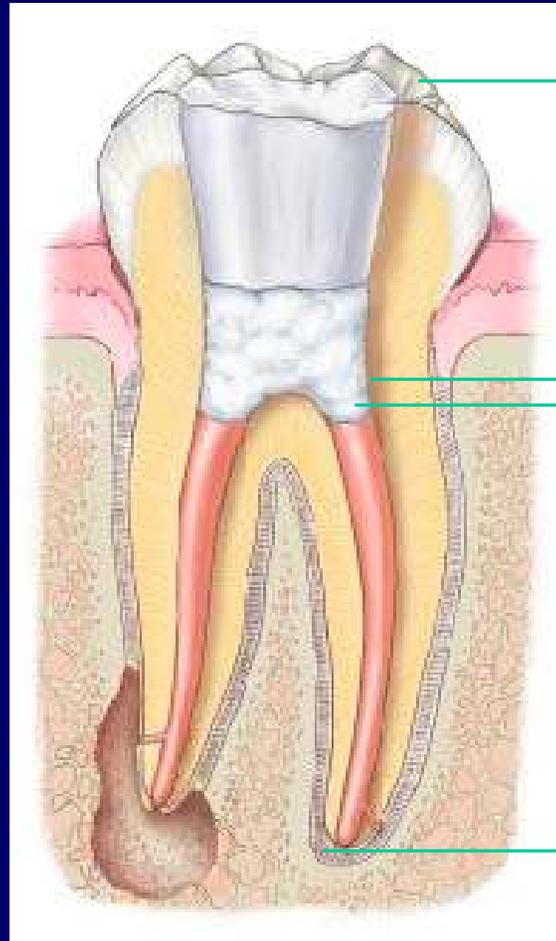
**This seal is designed to last
2 to 4 weeks.**



**Temporary
Seal**

**Filled
Root Canals**

With a Temporary Seal, You are **NOT** finished with your care!



**Temporary
Seal**

**Filled
Root Canals**

**Within 4 weeks of your
root canal,
you MUST return
to your general dentist,
who will remove the seal to
place a final restoration, &
begin treatment for a CROWN.**

CROWN REPAIR



*If your tooth already has a
crown, this seals the opening.*

PERMANENT crown glues do
NOT allow artificial crowns to
be removed from teeth.

The force required could split
or fracture the root of the
tooth.

**The least traumatic way inside
is to make an opening
in the top of the crown.**

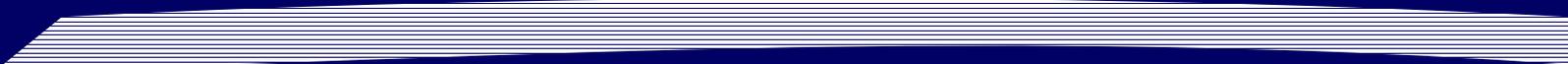
**90% of the time your crown
can have a filling placed,
BUT sometimes is MUST BE
RE-MADE**

Anytime your tooth already has a crown, it

MAY NEED TO BE REDONE

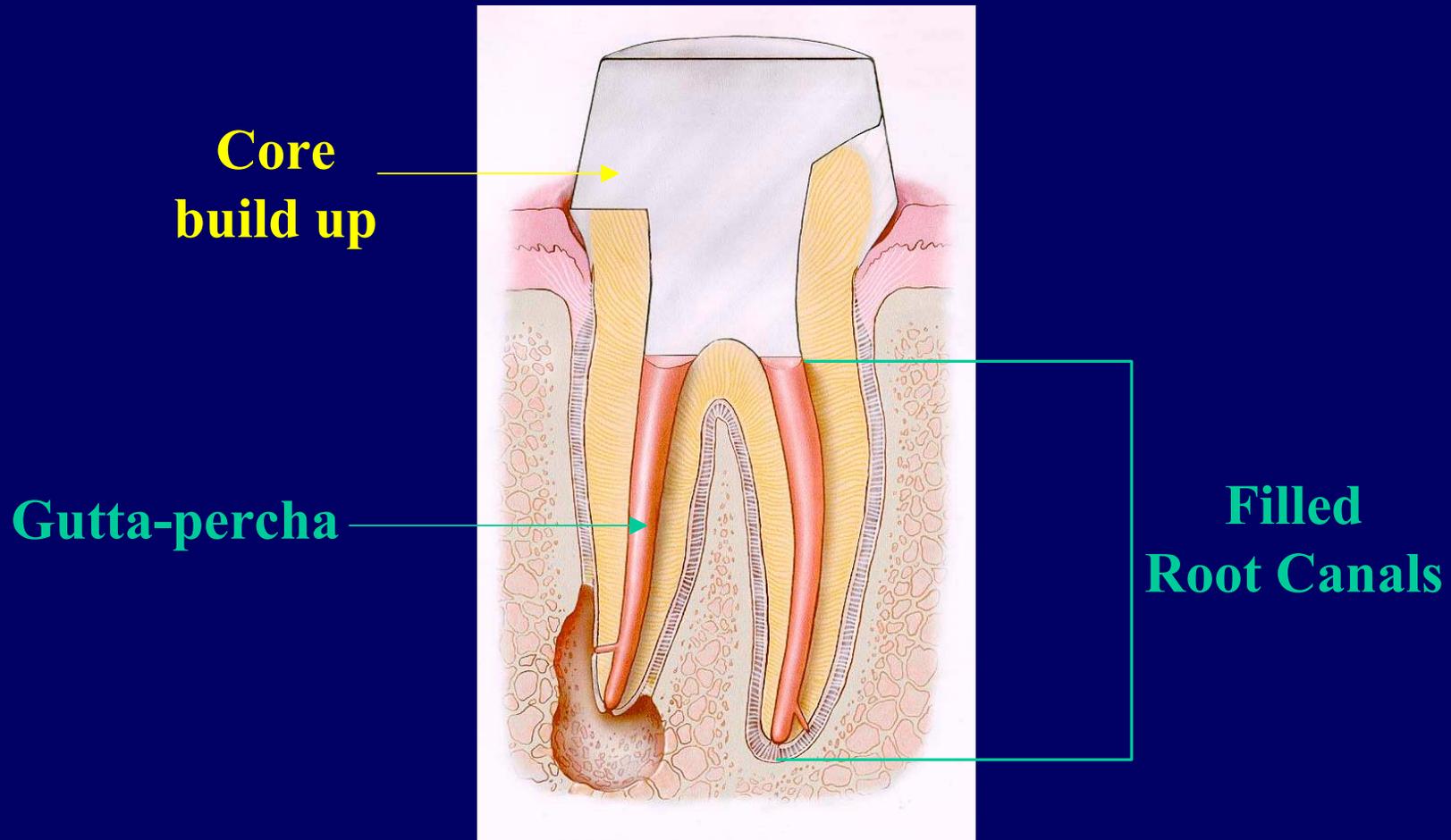
- ◆ Decay under the crown seal
 - MOST COMMON
- ◆ Porcelain may crack or split.
 - Rare
- ◆ Core filling may dislodge
 - If there is an existing post

CORE RESTORATION



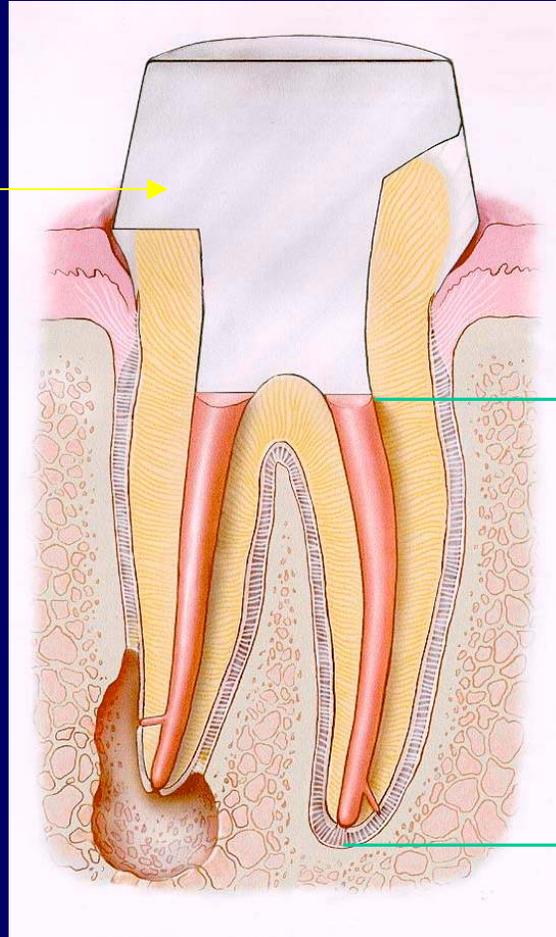
*Seals the tooth, but does NOT
protect the tooth from breaking.*

...a large filling, called a **core build up**, is necessary.



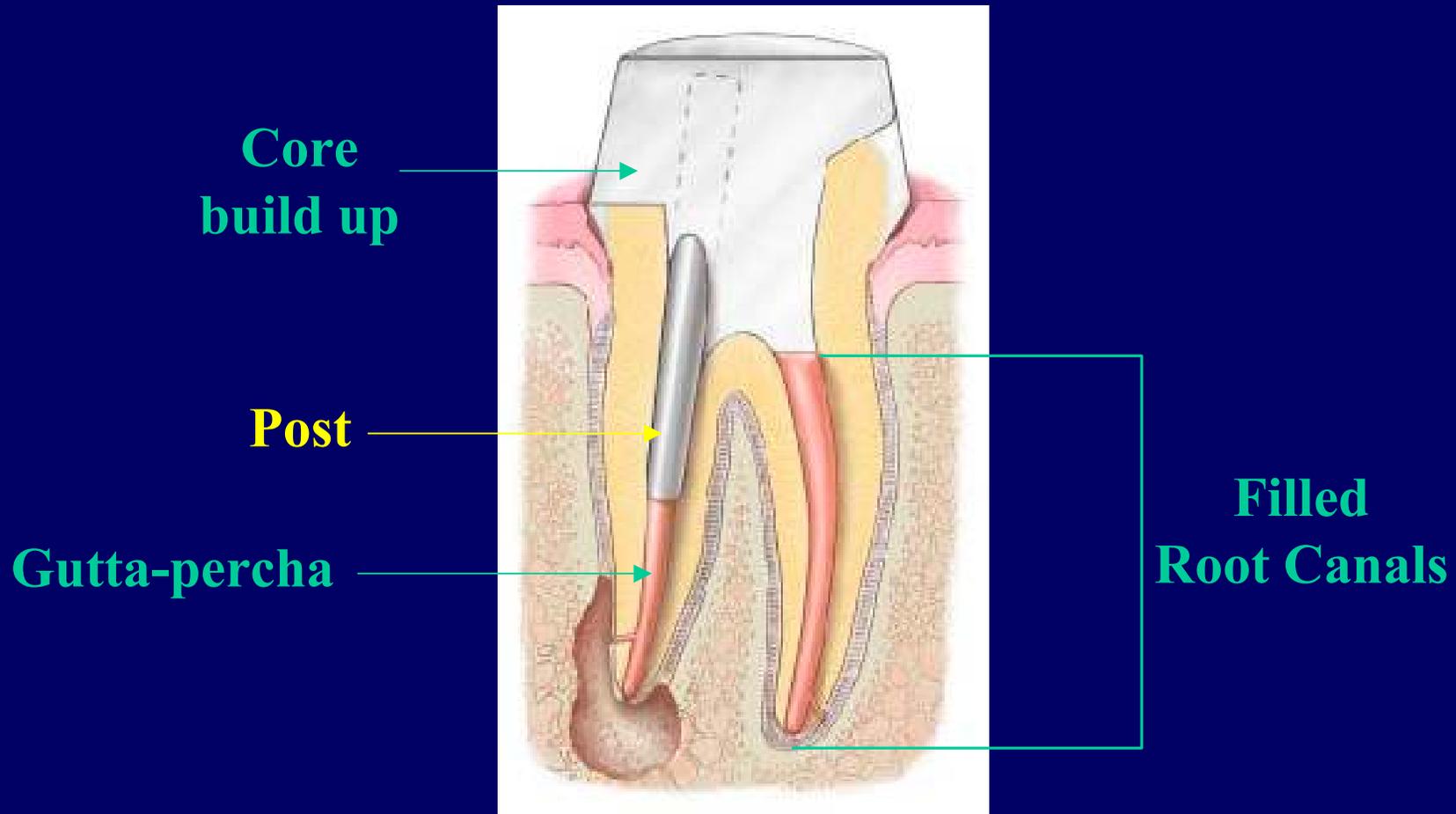
If your tooth lacks sufficient structure to hold this filling...

**Core
build up**

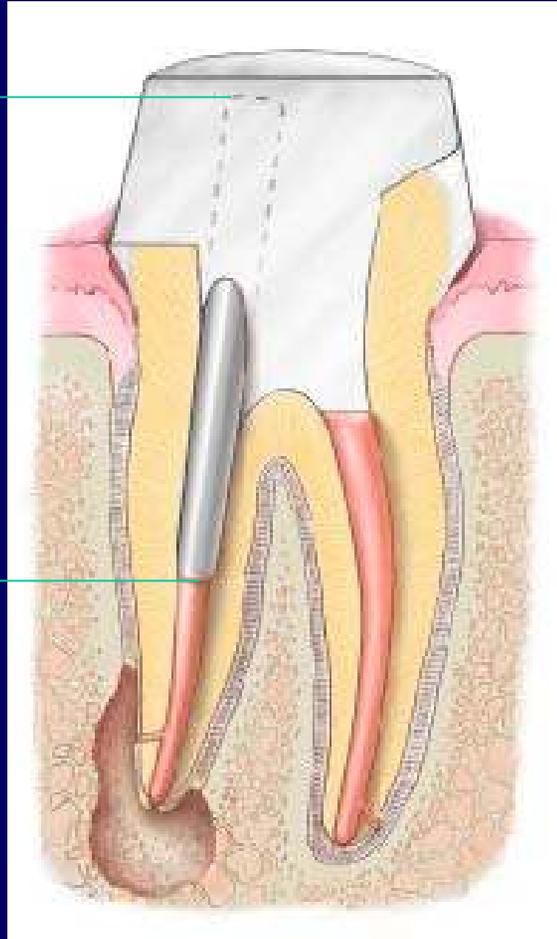


**Filled
Root Canals**

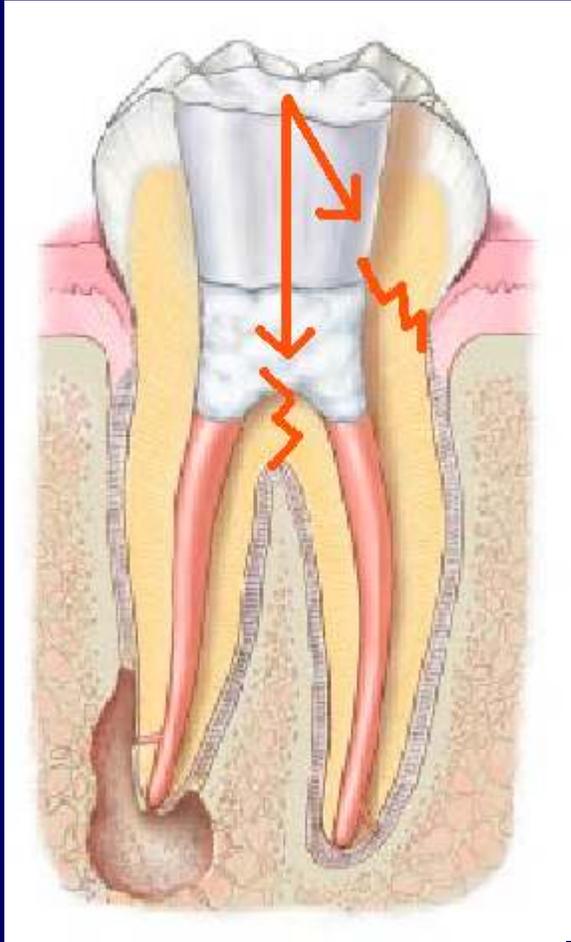
...a **post** may also be placed
inside the tooth.



Post



**The purpose
of the post is
to help retain
the core
build up.**



**Until the final
restoration is
placed, your tooth
will be susceptible
to splitting or
breaking...**

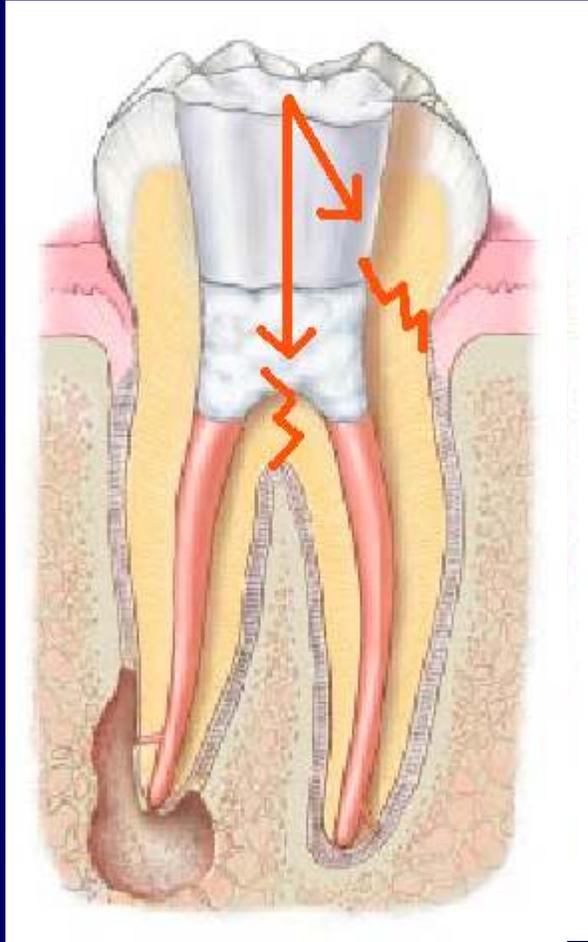
DO NOT !

DO NOT !

DO NOT !



*Bite on your tooth unless it is
protected with a crown.*

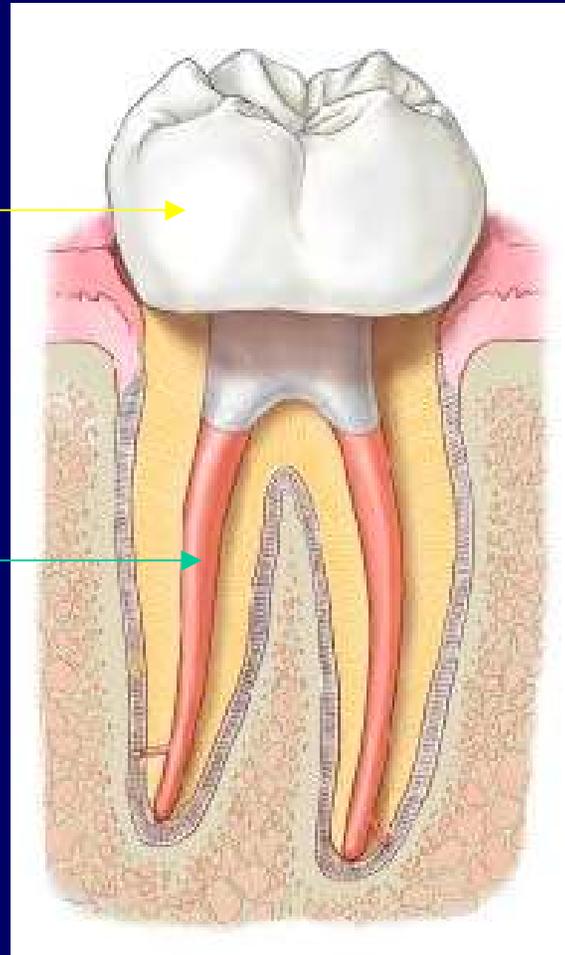


...if you split or
fracture the tooth
... It must then be
extracted
(removed)

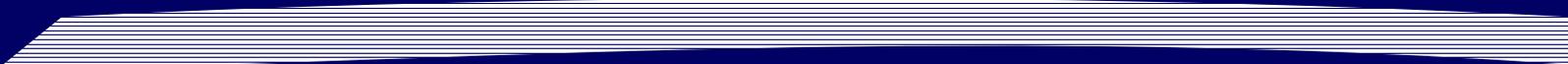
At this time, a crown must be placed, to protect your tooth

**Final
Restoration**

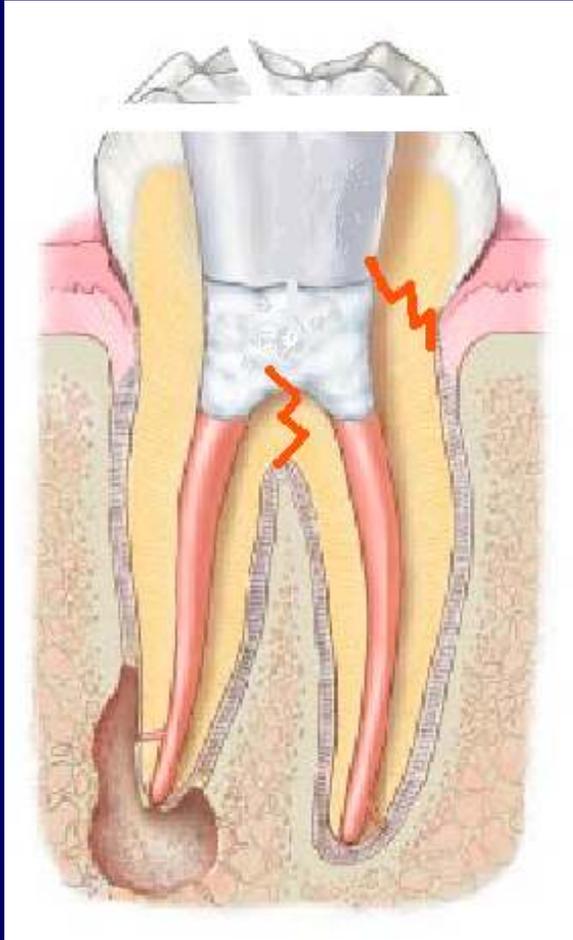
Gutta-percha



**Your tooth may remain
sensitive for a few days
following treatment.**



*Over-the-counter medications
(Tylenol, Motrin etc) should
relieve this discomfort.*



To protect your tooth from biting pressure and to speed healing, I will shave down the top of your tooth.

**For lower teeth,
your gums may be inflamed for
several days**



*You will be given specific
instructions on a salt water
mouth rinse*

**If pain is severe
or swelling occurs,
call our office.**

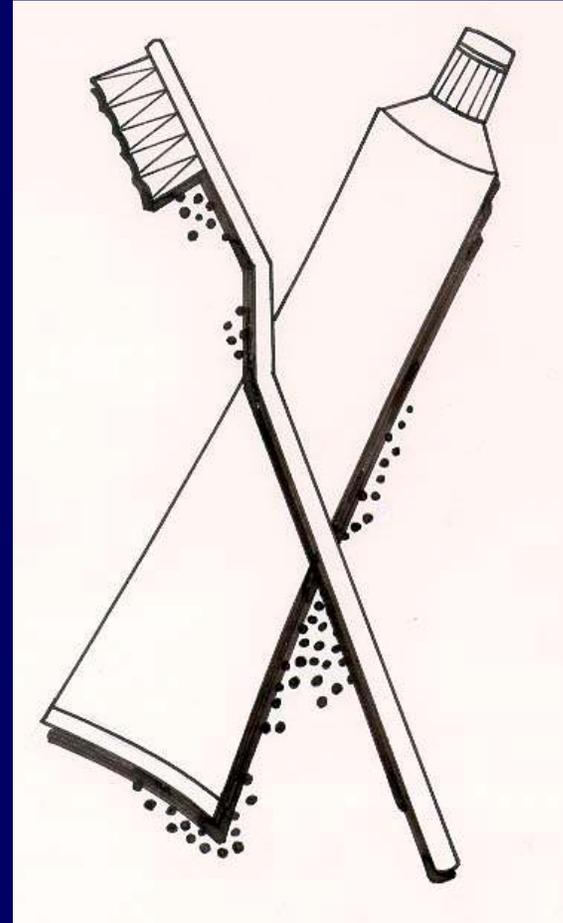


A Team Member will review our After Care Pamphlet



*This will be given to you for
reference at home*

**Brushing,
flossing and
regular
checkups and
cleanings are
still important.**



**Like any other tooth,
your endodontically treated
tooth can decay again.**

A decorative graphic consisting of multiple thin, parallel white lines that form a horizontal bar with a slight upward curve on the left side and a slight downward curve on the right side.

**Depending on your tooth,
I may schedule a follow-
up exam to evaluate the
healing process.**

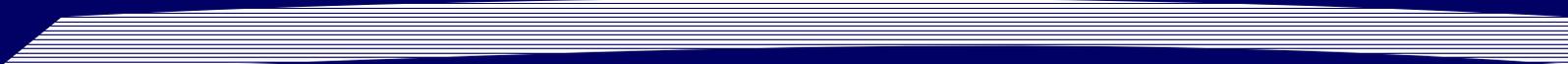
While it is usually best to save a natural tooth, it is sometimes necessary to extract, or remove, the tooth instead.



Extraction is indicated when:

- ◆ The tooth is severely damaged by decay or fracture
- ◆ Bone structure is not adequate to support the treatment

**When a tooth is extracted,
it is usually replaced with a
bridge or implant.**



*While these replacements can be
successful, nothing is as good as
your natural tooth.*

In summary, endodontic (root canal) treatment:

- ◆ Relieves pain
- ◆ Saves your teeth
- ◆ Is cost effective
- ◆ Makes you
“Fit-To-Bite”



**You will need to review our
information sheet.**

**If you have any questions,
please ask us !**



And remember...

...with proper care...

**Root canal treated teeth
(and ALL your teeth)
can last a lifetime!**



The End