

ENGLISH FOR DENTISTS IN PRACTICE

PART TEN: ROOT CANAL TREATMENT - answers

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

Look at the description of Root Canal Treatment. First fill it with the words from a table. Then, put the steps of a procedure in the right order.

cap	cemented	a post
irrigation	inflamed	numbs
pulp	contamination	gutta-percha

__1__. Deep Infection

Root canal treatment is needed when an injury or a large cavity damages the tooth's root. The root becomes infected or inflamed.

__2__ Route to the Root

The dentist numbs the tooth. An opening is made through the crown of the tooth to the pulp chamber.

__6__ Extra Support

In some cases a post is placed into the root next to the gutta-percha. This gives the crown more support.

__4__ Filling the Canals

The canals are filled with a permanent material. Typically this is done with a material known as gutta-percha. This helps to keep the canals free of infection or contamination.

__3__ Removing the Infected/Inflamed Tissue

Special files are used to clean the infection and unhealthy pulp out of the canals. Then they shape the canals for the filling material. Irrigation is used to help clean the canals and remove debris.

__5__ Rebuilding the Tooth

A temporary filling material is placed on top of the gutta-percha to seal the opening. The filling remains until the tooth receives a permanent filling or a crown. A crown, sometimes called a cap, looks like a natural tooth. It is placed over the top of the tooth.

__7__ The Crowning Touch

The crown is cemented into place.

Look at the definitions of typical tools used in root canal treatment /endodontic procedure. Try to guess what tools and instruments are being described.

1. _____ *Endodontic locking tweezer* _____ - it has a lock that allows materials to be held without continuous finger pressure; also it has a groove which enables holding gutta percha and absorbing points. (3 words)
2. _____ *Endodontic syringe* _____ - it is used to carry irrigating solution into the root canal. The tip of the instrument is flat to prevent penetration of the needle to the small canals.
3. _____ *Endodontic excavator* _____ - it is larger than a spoon excavator, used to allow excavation of the contents of the pulp chamber.
4. _____ *pledget* _____ - a compress or pad used to apply medication to or absorb discharges.
5. _____ *front surface reflecting mirror* _____ - a mirror that reflects directly from its front surface. The advantages of this type are that, unlike back surface mirrors, there is no chromatic effect as the glass is not used optically.