

## What is a Root Canal Treatment?





Root canal treatment is a dental procedure performed to repair or save a tooth that is heavily decayed (rotten). The procedure can be done by a Dentist or an Endodontist. The treatment is covered under the Moto Health Classic option and no pre-authorisation is required.

## **Indications**

- 1. Severe toothache upon chewing or application of pressure.
- 2. Prolonged sensitivity (pain) to hot or cold temperatures (after the heat or cold has been removed).
- 3. Discoloration (darkening) of the tooth.
- 4. Swelling and tenderness in nearby gums.
- 5. A persistent or recurring pimple(abscess) on the gums.

## Sometimes no symptoms are present.

- An x-ray is taken to assess the tooth and measure the canals.
- The tooth is anaesthetised ,this depends on the treating dentist as others do not anaesthetise as the tooth is already considered "dead".
- The tooth is drilled, and the nerves (pulp) and the bacteria are removed .Sodium hypochlorite is used to periodically clean the canal.
- Once the tooth is cleaned, a temporary filling is placed on the tooth and the patient is recalled after a week.
- During the next appointment, the tooth is irrigated with sodium hypochlorite to clean the tooth again before sealing it with a *gutta percha* material.
- A permanent restoration material is then placed on the tooth to restore it back to function and shape.
- The dentist will then recall a patient after several weeks for a post & core and a crown.

