



What are the risks or complications that may be associated with non-surgical root canal retreatment?

Root canal retreatment usually requires higher skills than primary root canal treatment and is performed by a specialist in root canal treatment.

Non-surgical root canal retreatment may result in some complications (which may also occur during primary root canal treatment) including:

- Root perforation (opening in the wall of the root)
- Deviation from the original root canal path
- Separation of instruments inside the root canal
- Extension of root filling beyond the apex of the tooth
- Inability to clean the canal to the full length due to canal blockage or deviation caused by previous treatment
- Root fracture

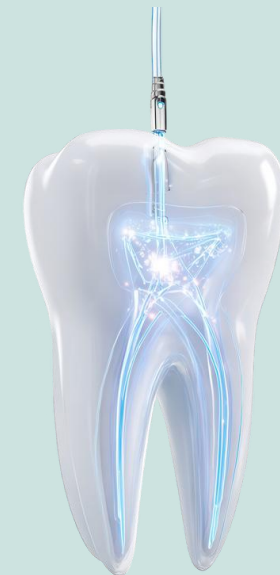
These complications do not necessarily lead to treatment failure; rather, they can often be managed according to the specific clinical condition. In some cases, surgical root canal retreatment might be required, and in limited conditions tooth extraction may be necessary.

Done by:
Basmah Barnawi
Renad Hamed

Supervised by:
Dr. Manal Alkadi

This educational brochure is part of a collaborative initiative between the Endodontic Division at the College of Dentistry, Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University, and the Saudi Endodontic Society

NON-SURGICAL ROOT CANAL RETREATMENT



A Second Chance to Save
Your Tooth

What are the types of root canal retreatment?

- Non-surgical root canal retreatment
- Surgical root canal retreatment

What is non-surgical root canal retreatment?

Nonsurgical root canal retreatment is a procedure in which the previously placed root canal obturating material is removed, followed by cleaning, shaping, disinfection and re-obturation of all canals using an aseptic technique.



Why would a tooth need root canal retreatment?

There are certain conditions that can make a tooth require non-surgical root canal retreatment. These include the following:

A. When the previous treatment is NOT adequate:

1. short filling material
2. presence of untreated canal
3. A new crown will be placed
4. Continued disease in the bone surrounding the apex of the tooth (X-ray shows the bone lesion stayed the same size or became bigger after 1 year.)
5. Persistent or new symptoms like pain, swelling or pus discharge related to the previously treated tooth

B. When the quality of the previous root canal treatment is adequate, non-surgical root canal retreatment might be required in the following condition:

1. before placing a new restoration or crown when there is evidence of microbial leakage into the tooth due to caries or a broken/missing restoration.



Why would a tooth need root canal retreatment?



Note:

If the previous root canal treatment is adequate but there are persistent or new symptoms or disease (a bone lesion associated with the tooth that remains the same size for more than one year after the initial treatment, or increases in size), this may require surgical root canal retreatment in which the lesion and the apex of the affected tooth are removed surgically.