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Practice Limited to Endodontics  
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**Informed Consent for Endodontic Therapy**

Root canal treatment, also known as "endodontic treatment", is a procedure that attempts to retain a tooth (or teeth) which otherwise might need to be extracted. It is one of the most common dental procedures performed and also one of the most successful with a clinical success rate of over 90%. However, it is still a biological procedure, and success cannot be guaranteed. If you have questions about the procedure, please feel free to ask. Dr. Vandersloot or Dr. Ma would be happy to answer any questions that you may have.

**\* PLEASE DO NOT BE ALARMED BY THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION.  
MOST COMPLICATIONS ARE QUITE RARE.**

I, the undersigned, have been informed that I require an endodontic procedure and that I fully understand the following:

1. Failure to follow this recommendation may result in: loss of the tooth, bone destruction due to an abscess, pain, or possible systemic (affecting the whole body) infection.
2. A certain percentage (5 to 10 percent) of root canals fail and may require retreatment, surgery, or extraction.
3. Non-surgical endodontic treatment may require more than one appointment. Failure to keep your appointment prolongs treatment, affects your comfort, and reduces the success rate.
4. Complication of root canal therapy and local anesthesia may include: swelling, pain, trismus (restricted jaw opening), infection, bleeding, sinus involvement and numbness or tingling of the lip, gum or tongue, which rarely is protracted and even more rarely permanent.
5. During treatment, complications may be discovered which make treatment impossible, or which may require dental surgery. These complications may include: instruments broken within the root canals, perforations of the crown or root of the tooth, loss of tooth structure in gaining access to canals, blocked canals due to fillings, natural calcification, or splits/fractures of the root.
6. About 10% of root canal treated teeth are lost due to periodontal disease (gum disease/pyorrhea), splits or fractures of the roots.
7. When making an access (opening) through an existing crown or placing a rubber dam clamp, possible damage can occur and a new crown may be necessary after endodontic therapy.
8. Successful completion of the root canal procedure does not prevent future decay or fracture.
9. **To protect your tooth from decaying or fracturing, you must return to your dentist for a permanent filling or crown within 6 weeks after the completion of the root canal therapy.** The fee for the final restoration is not included in the root canal fee. Failure to follow up with the final restoration in a timely manner may result in failure of the root canal treatment. A fee will be charged if retreatment or apical surgery is required due to lack of final restoration.
10. There are risks involved in administration of anesthetics, analgesics (pain medication) and antibiotics. I will inform the doctor of any previous side effects or allergies.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date