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Post Operative Instructions for Emergency Toothache

The treatment you had done today is an emergency procedure to relieve you of pain. We opened your tooth, removed the infection, reduced the biting surface of the tooth and placed a temporary filling. You will however, need additional treatment on this tooth to restore it to proper function.

Pain: Most of the pain you were experiencing in the tooth should be relieved significantly within 24 to 48 hours after the emergency toothache procedure performed by the dentist. If pain persists try one of these pain medication procedures:

- Ibuprofen 800mg (4 tablets of Advil) every 6 hours for a few days following the procedure.
- If discomfort is not relieved by the Ibuprofen alone, then take 1 to 2 tabs of Extra Strength Tylenol 500mg with the Ibuprofen 3 to 4 times per day.

If additional pain persists or worsens, call the office you may need to be placed on an antibiotic.

Antibiotics: If a prescription is given to you by the doctor, take the medication until all pills are gone. **Women** - if you are taking birth control pills you must use an alternative form of contraception for the remainder of your cycle. Sometimes antibiotics can reduce the efficacy of the birth control pill.

Eating: Try not to chew on the tooth that was worked on, it only has a temporary filling and may be tender when chewing on that tooth.

Temporary Filling : Your tooth has a temporary filling until your next appointment. Avoid chewing on that tooth as you have a risk of fracturing the tooth or breaking the temporary filling. The temporary filling may be soft or hard. If the temporary filling is soft it may chip a little. This is normal for this type of temporary filling material. However, if you should lose the entire temporary filling call the office for replacement.

Home Care: Continue to brush the tooth, but try not to floss the area until treatment is complete. Flossing may cause the temporary filling to dislodge. You may want to use a mouth rinse to keep the area clean.