

# Having root canal treatment

## What is root canal treatment?

Root canal treatment involves removing the nerve from the inside of the tooth and its root(s). This is done by making an opening through the chewing surface of the tooth to gain access to the inside of the tooth. The inside of the tooth is then cleaned, shaped and filled. This may take several appointments. Following treatment, the tooth will need a filling or crown to repair it.

## What are the benefits of root canal treatment?

The benefits of the treatment are to relieve pain or remove a source of infection. It will allow the tooth to be kept and repaired. Referral to a specialist private practitioner may sometimes improve the success of root canal treatment.

## What problems might occur?

During and after treatment, pain might occur and sometimes the area around the tooth can become infected. This might mean that the tooth has to be re-treated or extracted.

The instruments used to clean the inside of the tooth are very fine and can sometimes separate inside the tooth. If the broken piece cannot be removed it might need to be left in place or require further treatment.

If there are any problems after treatment, please contact the clinic where the treatment was provided.

If you have any questions, please do ask your dentist. We are here to help you.

## Opening hours:

Monday - Thursday 8.30am - 5.00pm. Friday 8.30am - 4.30pm

### St Catherine's Health Centre Dental Clinic

0151 514 6420

### Victoria Central Health Centre Dental Clinic

0151 514 6266

### Leasowe

0151 514 2340

## Specialised Dental Service

If you would like this information in another format or language, please contact the Your Experience Team on freephone 0800 694 5530. Alternatively you can email [wcnt.yourexp@nhs.net](mailto:wcnt.yourexp@nhs.net)

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