# re in safe hands e kindness

# CRESCEND

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# Welcome to Crescendo!

You can be confident in the compassion and clinical excellence you will receive throughout your root canal therapy with us.

Read on to find out more about us and our treatment.

## What is Endodontics?

Endodontics comes from the Ancient Greek: endo, meaning inside, and odont, meaning tooth. This makes it the study and treatment of the inside of the tooth.

Inside the tooth is the dental pulp; a soft tissue with a supply of blood vessels and nerve endings that nourish the rest of the tooth. This sits within the pulp cavity. Sometimes, this can become injured or infected, leading to sensitvity, pain or a dental abscess, which may need the attention of a dentist.



You're more likely know endodontics as root canal therapy. Root canal therapy is simply a dental procedure to save your tooth if it has become badly decayed or infected. It will eliminate bacteria and prevent reinfection of the tooth.

### Symptoms of a tooth needing root canal therapy

Giveaway signs and symptoms are:

- A pimple on the gum
- Moderate to severe pain when biting or chewing
- Spontaneous aching that wakes you at night or does not respond well to painkillers
- Sensitivity to heat or cold that lingers even when that sensation has been removed
- A sharp, electric shock-like pain that lingers when biting something hard

These symptoms are usually experienced when a tooth has received an injury, when it has deep decay, when it is cracked or weak from heavy fillings or when the tooth is heavily worn.

## What to expect from your appointment

Inside every healthy tooth there is a soft tissue called pulp. This is the tissue that is infected when you need root treatment.

Your dentist will numb your tooth and make sure you are comfortable before applying rubber dam – a cover that protects the tooth from your saliva and protects your mouth during the procedure. The infected tissue will be thoroughly cleaned out before the root is filled, which will stop it from getting reinfected. At some point, you will usually need to have a crown or an onlay to protect the tooth from fracturing – this a separate procedure from root canal treatment.

Two thirds of our patients have their root treatment completed in one visit. Each visit takes around an hour to an hour and a half.

Most patients can return to normal activities straight after their appointment; however, it is important to avoid eating until the numbness from the anesthetic is completely gone.

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Some people say toothache is the worst pain they have ever experienced. Let us help you.

Contact us: 0121 382 8544

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### Meet Dr Hassan Kamal

Dr Hassan Kamal has been an associate dentist at Crescendo's parent practice, Nothing But The Tooth, since June 2018. Having qualified at the University of Birmingham, he has undergone postgraduate training in Endodontics at the University of Chester.

"My first priority is putting patients at ease, especially if they feel anxious or haven't been to a dentist for a while. I get great satisfaction from relieving patients' pain and helping them to keep teeth that would otherwise need to be extracted."

"Outside of dentistry, cars are my passion – there's nothing like the joy of driving on the windy roads of the beautiful countryside on a bright summer's day. More than anything, I love spending time with family and friends. I am a father to two beautiful little boys who are the apple of my eye. And despite the interrupted sleep, I can't get enough of the little munchkins!"

## Meet Dr Gursharn Attwal

Having graduated from the University of Birmingham in 2011, Dr Gursharn Attwal has undertaken a variety of postgraduate training. He has a special interest in Endodontics and is undertaking his masters at the University of Chester, where he has completed all clinical aspects of the course and is now finishing his dissertation.

"I always strive to provide the highest quality care and experience for my patients, using a holistic approach to treatment and tailoring treatment to their individual requirements."

"Outside of work, I like to keep active and enjoy a good session at the gym! I am an avid football fan and enjoy following Man United (but don't hold that against me!). Also, I love to travel and visit new places around the world to experience different cultures."

# Meet the Team

#### Get to know the people who will guide you through your treatment at Crescendo

### Alex Sumner: Patient Care Co-ordinator

As a Patient Care Co-ordinator, my role is to guide you through your journey with us, ensuring you always feel safe, informed and reassured. I believe that every patient's journey is different and therefore requires a personal touch.

Outside of work I love singing and writing music. I've travelled to some amazing places and performed in some incredible venues and countries because of music; it's a huge part of my life. I have a brilliant cocker spaniel, who is mad as a box of frogs and I wouldn't have him any other way. One day I'd like to visit Japan which is number 1 on my bucket list. In the last few years I have gotten into American football so I love football Sundays with my partner and friends after cooking a big roast!

### Aimee Ricardo: Head Dental Nurse

Assisting as a Dental Nurse is a career I have been pursuing since 2007. I enjoy all aspects of my job as a dental nurse, from helping nervous patients overcome their fears to helping create a patient's perfect smile. I am very passionate about my role as compliance lead, as I ensure the smooth running of the treatment rooms daily and keep the practice compliant.

While I'm not at work I love camping weekends and cooking for friends and family. I have two dogs called Rolly and Daniel who I love to treat and take out for little adventures.

### Louise Rainbow: Receptionist

Mine is usually the first smile you see when you walk into the practice. There is nothing I enjoy more than being front of house and making our patients feel welcome. I had no dental background when I started working here, and I have loved learning new things about dental health.

In my spare time I am a keen photographer and traveller, and I am passionate about animal welfare – including hand rearing three newborn orphaned kittens. All in all, I am a little softy.

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# **Frequently Asked Questions**

Let us answer things you might be wondering before receiving root canal therapy

### What is root canal therapy?

Root canal therapy is simply a dental procedure to save your tooth if it has become badly decayed or infected. It will eliminate bacteria and prevent reinfection of the tooth.

### Will it hurt?

A root canal or endodontic treatment is no different from any other dental procedure as you will be given an anaesthetic. We will check you are comfortable before we start and throughout treatment. Our clinicians are very experienced in pain management and their calm, kind and compassionate nature means that you can relax - some patients hace even fallen asleep during treatment! After your appointment the tooth can take a few days to settle, and a few patients experience discomfort for a little longer.

# Why should I save a tooth with root canal therapy rather than opt for an extraction?

Saving the natural tooth has many advantages:

- It will help you chew more efficiently, and eating is important!
- You will have a normal bite and sensation
- You will have a natural appearance did you know that people who have a great smile are seen as more successful, healthy and intelligent?
- It can protect other teeth from drifting into the wrong positions or from taking excessive force save your smile, not just a tooth, by minimizing the risk of needing procedures on neighbouring teeth.
- Nothing artificial can perfectly replace the look or function of a natural tooth

### Is everyone suitable for root canal therapy?

At your consultation your dentist will establish whether the prognosis is good for rescuing your smile with root canal therapy. You will be made aware of all your options if they believe that the risk of failure is too high. Ultimately this will be your decision once you are given all the facts.

### What are my options if I am not suitable for root canal therapy?

If you have your own dentist, they will discuss this with you. Otherwise, our experienced team of clinicians offer a full range of replacement options for teeth that can not be saved - including dental implants, bridges and dentures. They are always happy to find the most suitable solution for you.

#### Are there any risks to the procedure?

No medical procedure is without risk. Root treatment is a very safe procedure especially when carried out by an experienced dentist with high quality instruments as we have. Dr Kamal or Dr Attwal will go through any possible complications with you so that you understand before treatment.

### I have heard they are harmful - is this true?

No. This false claim was based on long-debunked and poorly designed research, conducted long before modern medicine understood the causes of many diseases. We urge you not to let unevidenced opinions on the internet put you off from saving your teeth. As professionals registered with the General Dental Council, we always give you options based on up to date scientific studies and advice.

### What if it doesn't work?

We endeavour to deliver the best possible outcome for all our root canal treatments. Our pretreatment assessment is designed to determine if treatment is likely to be successful, hence most root treatments have a good outcome.

Occasionally however, the root treatment does not work which can be due to the infection being too embedded in the tooth, an abnormal shape of the root canals, or resistant bacteria causing the infection. In this case, if it is likely to result in an improved outcome we will retreat the tooth for you free of charge (up to two years after treatment). However, if we cannot see any way we can improve the results, we may offer referral to a specialist endodontist, or an extraction. As they are circumstances beyond our control, these will not be free of charge.

### Will I need to have a crown after my root filling?

Up-to-date research shows that most molar teeth need a crown to give them the best chance of lasting a long time. Your own dentist will discuss this treatment option with you. If you do not have your own dentist, we are happy to provide this and you will be given all your options so that you can make a fully informed decision.

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### Do I need a referral from my dentist?

If speed is of importance to you then no. If not, you may feel more comfortable asking for a referral if you intend to return to your regular dentist for routine care. As a professional courtesy to the referring dentist, we do not invite their patients to register with us for their routine care.

#### How can I avoid future root treatments?

Whilst nobody can guarantee you will not have to go through this procedure again, as a preventive based practice, we focus on working with you to reduce the risk of needing treatment in future. If you do not have a regular dentist, you will be invited to join our preventative care programme which focuses on prevention of gum disease and tooth decay therefore reducing the risk of disease and of losing your natural teeth.

If you have been referred by your dentist to Crescendo, they will receive a discharge letter. They will offer appropriate advice at your next appointment.

#### How much does it cost?

In general terms, a root canal and the restoration (the crown, onlay or filling) will cost much less in the long term than an extraction, as gaps usually need to be replaced with a dental implant or a bridge to ensure you can chew properly again and prevent the neighbouring teeth from moving.

You can pay for your root canal therapy in instalments. We have various interest-free easy payment options and we will discuss these with you at your consultation.

We accept all major credit cards, including American Express.

### What do I do now?

Please contact us on

0121 382 8544

smile@crescendoreferrals.co.uk

We will ensure your consultation is as soon as possible

