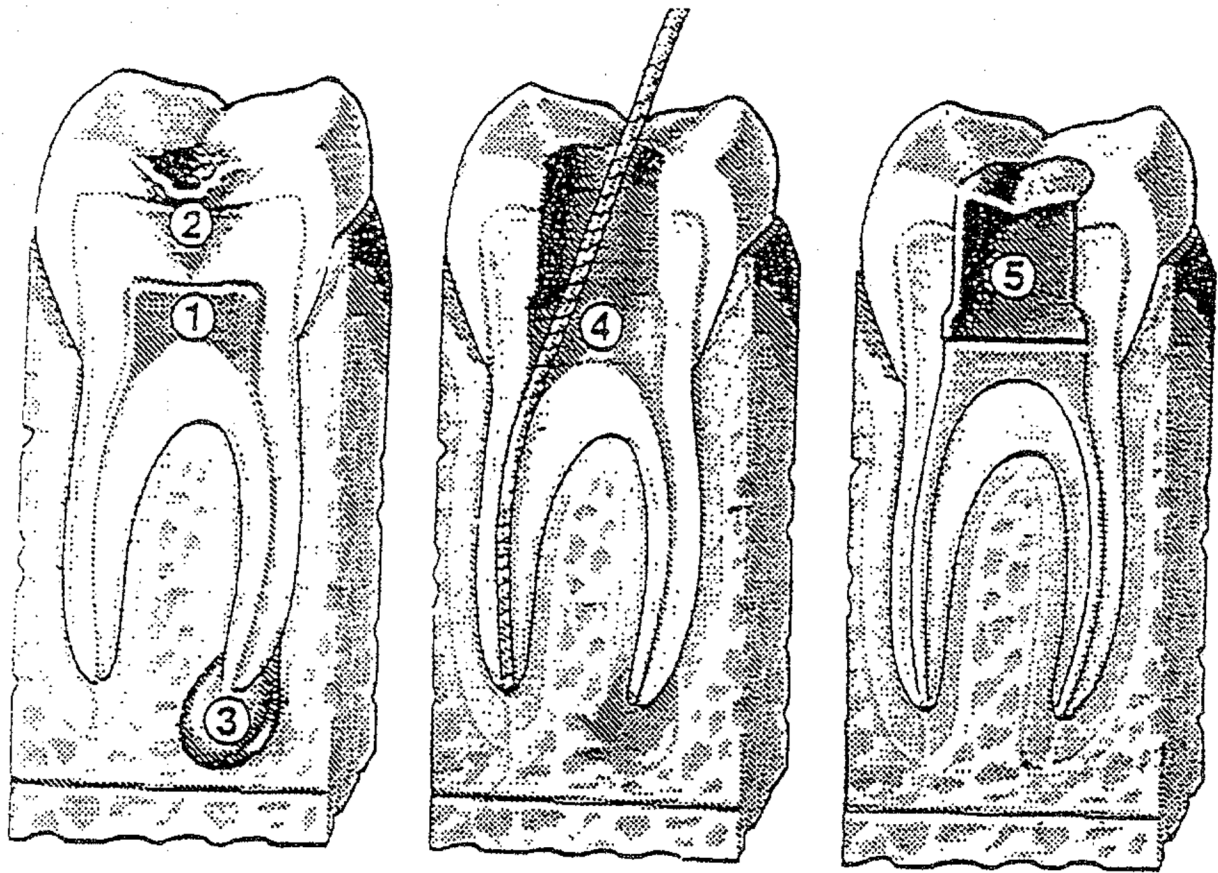


ROOT CANAL TREATMENT



A tooth receives nutrition from the pulp (1). The pulp is encased in the middle of the tooth and contains a blood supply and nerve network. If the pulp is damaged in any way (2), it may become infected and form an abscess (3). Root canal treatment may be recommended in this situation. Untreated, such a condition could lead to loss of the tooth and serious infection.

A series of appointments is usually required for root canal treatment. At the first appointment, the diseased pulp tissue must be completely removed (4). The tooth is cleaned out to eliminate the infectious causing bacteria. At a subsequent appointment, the canal is completely filled and sealed (5). This is done only after the canal is completely free of bacteria. In many cases, root canal treatment is less costly than replacement with an artificial tooth. Proper home care of your teeth, along with regular dental checkups, may prevent a situation that requires root canal treatment.