

The Sarkissian Report

Dentistry News

Dental Infections

Antibiotics v. Natural Remedies

There is no doubt that antibiotics are over-prescribed. Many doctors and pathologists around the world agree and express concern that we are losing the battle against the microbes. Super-bugs, hospital strains and flesh-eating bacteria are daily news. Dentists are unfortunately very eager to prescribe antibiotics "just for prevention."

Antibiotics may seem to work initially, but leave the organism weaker and more susceptible to future infections.

When Should Antibiotics Be Prescribed?

1. Before a dental procedure as prophylaxis for patients with certain heart conditions.
2. As a last resort if an infection is beyond control, if there is blood sepsis with high fever, if the infection is threatening to enter the brain, or if it is threatening the airways.

Natural alternatives to antibiotics, just to name a few, are *Oregano Extract*, *Olive Leaf Extract*, *Goldenseal*, *Turmeric*, *Colloidal Silver*, *Garlic*, *Certain Homeopathics*, *En-*



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zymes, and any supplement that boosts the immune system.

These not only strengthen the body after overcoming the infection, but they also do not produce the usual side-effects common with mainstream medicines.

Root Canals

Infections From Dead Teeth

Dead and toxic tissue within tooth canals that once harbored live cells, nerves and blood

vessels, will eventually spread into surrounding bone and will either cause a "bag" of infection at the tip of a root, with no symptoms at all, or a mean abscess with pain and swelling. Both conditions have to be treated immediately. If the decision is made to extract the tooth, and the abscess is severe, then antibiotics may be necessary for the abscess to calm down before extracting. Once the tooth is taken out the bone has to be cleaned out as well. If it is decided to keep the tooth, a root canal therapy has to be performed. In both cases we like using natural remedies, unless antibiotics are absolutely called for as mentioned above. (See [Ref. 1](#) to read more ►►►



Enzymes as anti-inflammatories

I like recommending enzymes with every infection. In dentistry enzymes are used to "digest" by-products of infections and inflammation, and to dissolve fibrin in the blood and the tissues, improving circulation in both the jawbone and the gums. It should be part of an anti-inflammatory regimen used with abscesses, bruising and infections.

One of the most potent enzymes is Lumbrokinase: Dried earthworms and ground-up earthworm powder, believe it or not, were (and probably still are) used in traditional oriental medicine. Today, Boluoke[®], is a product containing purified enzymes extracted from earthworms.



Root Canals (cont.)

about root canal therapy in our office.)

Here are some remedies I like using for infections:

Herbal remedies: Oregano, turmeric, goldenseal, olive leaf extract and other natural antibiotic herbs are used alone or in combination as an alternative to using antibiotics. Echinacea is well known in that it strengthens the immune response. Licorice root extract is a wonderful remedy for inflammation and detoxification. (Two compounds in licorice, licoricidin and licorisoflavan A, were found in a study to be very effective in inhibiting the growth of bacteria that caused cavities and gum disease.) Click here to read more on Licorice)

Homeopathy: based on extreme dilutions of substances, they are wonderful in addressing infections without any side effects.

(See [Ref. 2](#) to learn more about homeopathy.)

Preventing Root Canals

Everyone dreads a root canal. The worst dental experiences are reports of the excruciating pain associated with a root canal. Today, thanks to improved anesthetic techniques, the procedure may be painless, but it is still a costly and time-consuming ordeal. It doesn't end there. Most root canaled teeth have to be restored with a post and a crown, driving up the cost even more.

A growing number of people are debating the very safety of root canals. Some even take it a step further. They just don't want to have one. They would rather extract the tooth.

The fundamental principle behind it is the fact that a dead tooth, despite the best root canal, is still a dead entity in our bodies. The bacteria that remain and thrive in the tiny tubules making up the main body of the root act as a sources of toxicity.

Laser Direct CAP

Therefore the key is to AVOID one, which means being proactive and treating the tooth BEFORE it dies. Most drilling procedures are too traumatic on an already inflamed nerve. A drill spinning at



400,000 RPM will definitely push the nerve over the edge.

On the other hand, when a dental laser, such as the waterlase, is used to remove deep decay in close proximity to the pulp (nerve), there is NO vibration, NO contact, NO heat, and NO cross-contamination. The chances of the tooth remaining alive are significantly better.



(See [Ref. 3](#) to read more on the Laser Direct Cap procedure.)

Zirconia Metal-Free Implants

Over the years, regardless of the abundance of titanium implants, the prevailing trend in medicine and dentistry is moving away from metals in general. The idea of a body part which transmits electricity, stains tissue, and attracts electromagnetic radiation, is not very welcoming.

Therefore, *"Why not ceramic implants?"*

One Swiss company which manufactured ceramic hip implants, Z-systems, ventured into producing metal-free implants and finally, just a few years ago, the FDA approved Zirconia Dental Implants for use in the United States.



(See [Ref. 4](#) to read more about Zirconia implants.)

More Information

The articles in this newsletter often only touch the subject. For more in-depth information and to follow the references in the text, please visit

www.SarkissianDDS.com/newsletter