

Integrative Micro Endodontics — A Way to Minimize the Risks of “Old School” Root Canal — Part 2

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There have been recent articles written claiming that teeth that have received root canal (Endodontic) treatment contribute to the occurrence of illness and disease in the body. This claim is based on the early 1900's research of Dr. Weston Price, as well as more recent researchers.

Dr. Price's research and others have stated that bacteria trapped in the teeth during root canal treatment can cause a variety of diseases, including arthritis, heart disease, kidney disease and others. The presence of bacteria in teeth and the mouth has been an accepted fact for many years. But the presence of bacteria does not always constitute “infection.” There are good bacteria and bad bacteria — and is not necessarily a threat to a person's health. In fact, bacteria are present in the mouth and teeth at all times, even in teeth that have never had a cavity or other trauma. Research studies performed in the 1930's and 1940's and those conducted in later years, showed a relationship between the

presence of endodontically treated teeth and the presence of illness in immunocompromised patients. Poorly treated root canals, genetic issues, and so much more determines who will do well with root canal and who will not; as stated earlier, there are ways to determine the viability and long term future of survival. Certainly no doctor has a crystal ball to give a conclusive answer. A fully informed patient will ultimately decide whether to save a tooth with endodontic treatment or not.

Researchers now believe that the earlier findings of infections may have been caused by poor sanitation and imprecise research techniques that were common in the early 1900's. At Golden Dental Wellness we utilize the most cutting edge diagnostic technology which not only improves treatment success rates but ultimately increases patient safety. Such state-of-the-art technologies were discussed in **Part 1** of this article in the December/January 2013 issue. Endodontist, Dr. Jaffe, offers endodontic treatments incorporating a Natural or Biological approach with Conventional treatment. She blends

“gold standard” endodontic treatment with medicaments and therapies that are biocompatible. These natural therapies do not cause harm to healthy supporting tissue and have been shown to be effective tools in eliminating harmful bacteria. You can research many web sites and books on Eastern and Western medicine to determine the course of treatment that is best for you. Some of these sites are www.IAOMT.com, www.dentalwellness4u.com; www.holisticdental.com. Informed consumers are our best patients. Be well! ✦

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