

Evaluation of Endodontic Treatment

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- The University of Western Australia



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That root-filled tooth now has a periapical area
What next ???



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That root-filled tooth now has a periapical area What next ???

- **Why was there healing?**
 - 7 **Diagnosis**
 - ↳ Provisional
 - ↳ Investigated
 - ↳ Confirmed
 - < **Cause(s)**
 - ↳ Identified
 - ↳ Removed



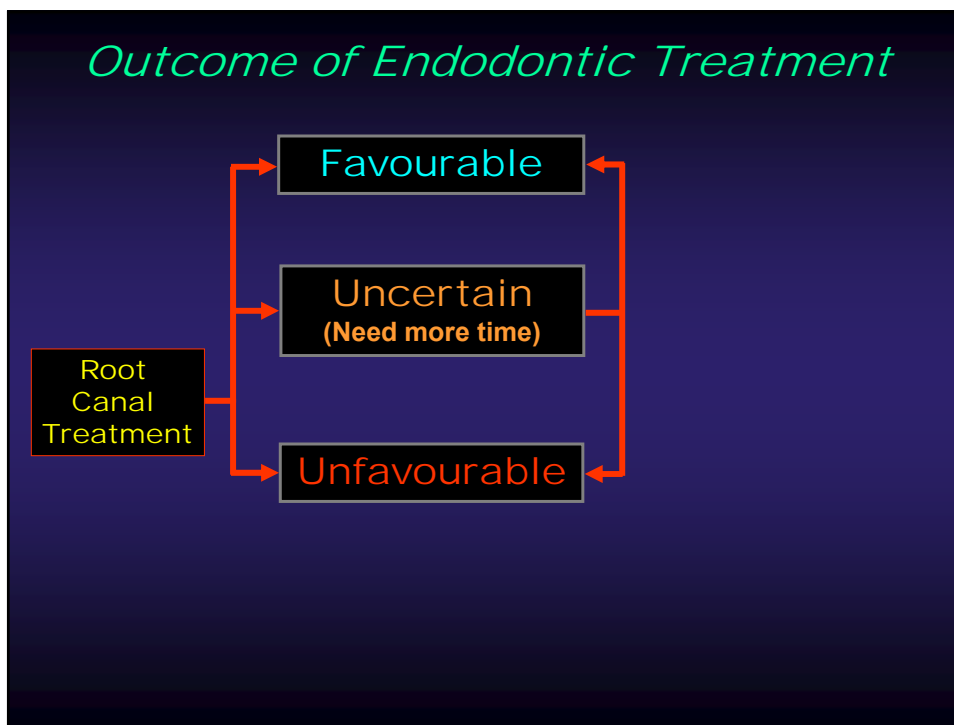
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Endodontic Treatment

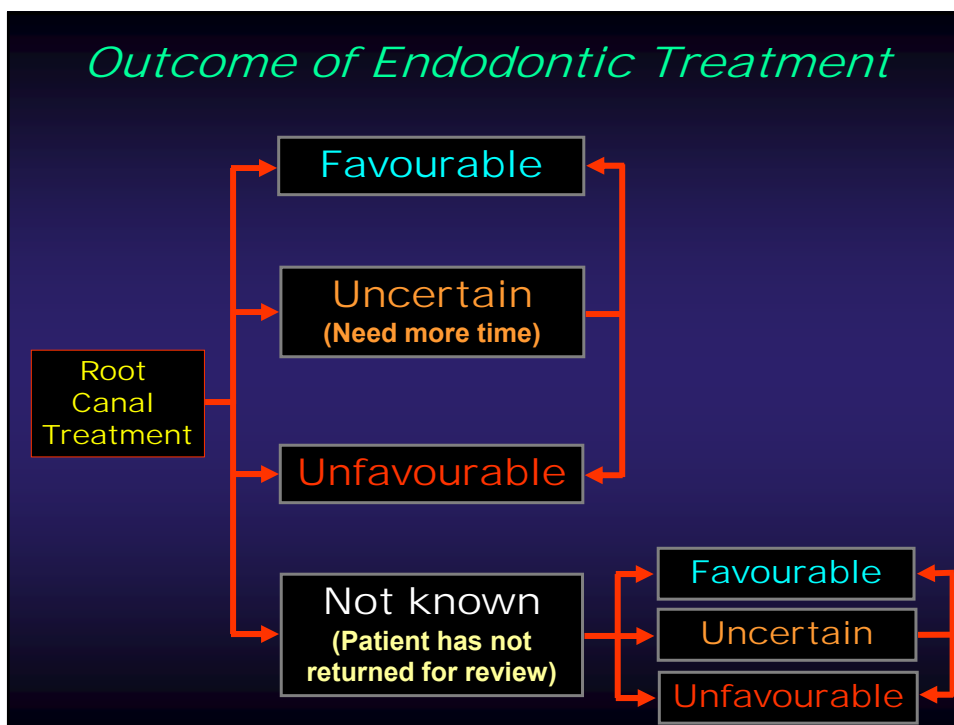
- x What is “success” ?
- x What is “failure” ?

↳ **OUTCOME of Treatment**

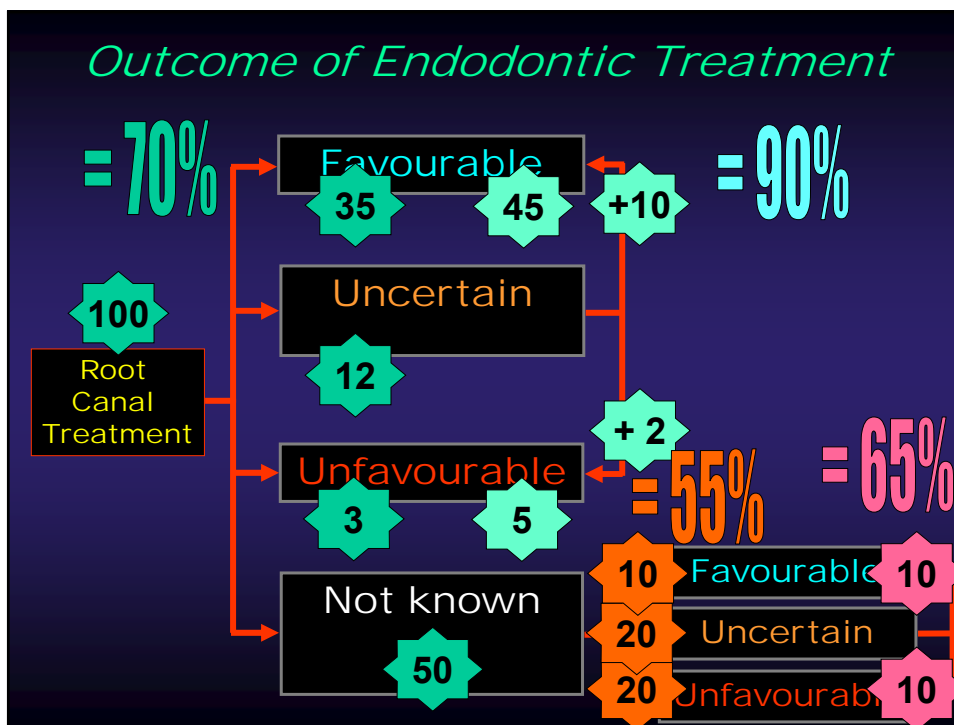
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Outcome of Endodontic Treatment

- × What is a **FAVOURABLE** outcome?
- × What is an **UNFAVOURABLE** outcome?
 - **Need to define the criteria to use to assess treatment outcome**

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Outcome of Endodontic Treatment

- x What **CRITERIA** should be used to assess the outcome of endodontic treatment?
 - o **Histological**
 - o **Clinical**
 - o **Radiographic**
 - o **Functional**
 - o **Patient's perceptions**

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Outcome of Endodontic Treatment

Histological Criteria

- x No inflammatory cells
- x No scar tissue
- x Hard tissue repair
 - o Bone
 - o Cementum
- x No resorption
 - o Tooth
 - o Bone

^ **The IDEAL results !!!**

^ **BUT ... We can NOT assess these criteria in the clinical situation with our patients !!!**

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Outcome of Endodontic Treatment

Histological Criteria

- x No inflammatory cells
- x No scar tissue
- x Hard tissue repair
 - o Bone
 - o Cementum
- x No resorption
 - o Tooth
 - o Bone

However

- ⌘ These criteria **MUST** be used to evaluate endodontic treatment during **RESEARCH**
- ⌘ Results of research can then be used clinically to provide more predictable treatment outcomes

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Outcome of Endodontic Treatment

- x What **CRITERIA** should be used to assess the outcome of endodontic treatment?

- o Histological
- o Clinical
- o Radiographic
- o Functional
- o Patient's perceptions

Use a combination of these criteria

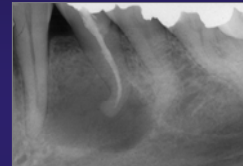
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Outcome of Endodontic Treatment

CRITERIA for a Favourable Outcome:

? Lack of symptoms

- But a lack of symptoms does not imply the lack of disease



The “Toronto study” - JoE 2003

- 95% of cases had no symptoms ... but:
- Only 85% had repair evident radiographically

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Outcome of Endodontic Treatment

CRITERIA for a Favourable Outcome:

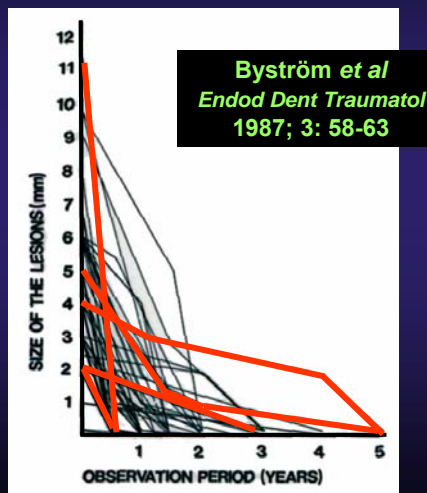
- 7 Lack of symptoms
- = Lack of evidence of ongoing pathosis
- = Radiographic signs of bone repair
 - Or no new radiolucency developing
- = No radiographic signs of resorption
- = Function maintained
- = Patient - comfortable tooth, no complaints

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Outcome of Endodontic Treatment

WHEN should we assess the outcome?

- ? 6 months
- ? 1 year
- ? 2 years
- ? 3 years
- ? 4 years
- ? 5 years
- ? 10 years



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Outcome of Endodontic Treatment

WHEN should we assess the outcome?

- 6 months - initial indication
- 1 - 3 years - more accurate assessment
- 5 years - generally considered the time required to accurately assess outcome of the endodontic treatment
- > 5 years - now really assessing the restoration rather than the RCF

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Outcome of Endodontic Treatment

CRITERIA for an Unfavourable Outcome:

- Anything that does not achieve the desired results for a favourable outcome
- **Usually because of either:**
 - ↳ **Bacteria persisting in canals**
 - ↳ **New bacteria entering the canals**
 - ↳ **Ongoing periapical disease**
 - true cyst, extra-radicular infection, FBR

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Outcome of Endodontic Treatment

Unfavourable Outcomes



Byström et al
Endod Dent Traumatol
1987; 3: 58-63

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Outcome of Endodontic Treatment

Criteria for Uncertain / Surviving cases

→ When at least one of the criteria for a favourable outcome has not been achieved but the other criteria have been achieved - for example:

→ The pre-operative radiolucency has not healed completely or has not healed at all

AND

→ The patient has no symptoms

→ There are no other clinical signs

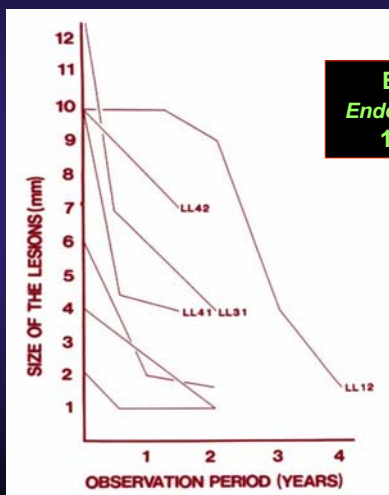
→ The patient can function normally on the tooth

→ Typically noted at a review appointment

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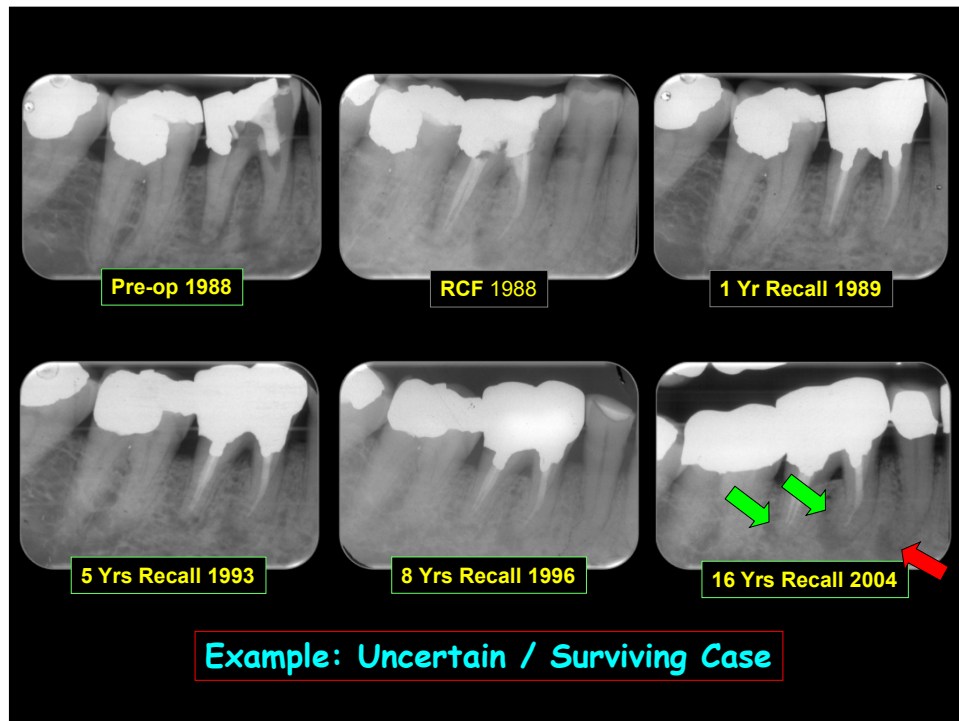
Outcome of Endodontic Treatment

Uncertain / Surviving cases



Byström et al
Endod Dent Traumatol
1987; 3: 58-63

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A new way to consider root-filled teeth with periapical radiolucencies:

- Based on WHEN the radiolucency occurs:

① **Early** - occur soon after treatment

- ↳ *May be a true "failure" of the endodontic treatment - or the operator!!!*
- ↳ *OR: may be due to a true cyst, an extra-radicular infection, a foreign body reaction or a periapical scar*

② **Late** - occur many years later

- ↳ *A "new disease" - rather than a "failure" of endodontic treatment*

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Unfavourable Endodontic Outcomes

- × **True “failures” of endodontic treatment**
 - Occur a short time after treatment
 - † Due to bacteria being left behind at the time of the previous treatment
 - R Up to 5 years after treatment
 - R Probably due to:

- Inadequate treatment techniques
- Inadequate asepsis during treatment
- Inadequate temporaries during treatment
- Inadequate restoration after the RCF
- Etc, etc

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Time Since Previous Endodontic Treatment until Re-Treatment Required

Allen et al/ J Endod 1987

No. of Years	% of cases	Cum. %
< 1	21.9 %	21.9 %
1 - 2	37.3	59.2
2 - 5	13.7	72.9
> 5	27.1	100.0
No. of cases examined:		1300

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Time Since Previous Endodontic Treatment until Re-Treatment Required

Abbott 1998

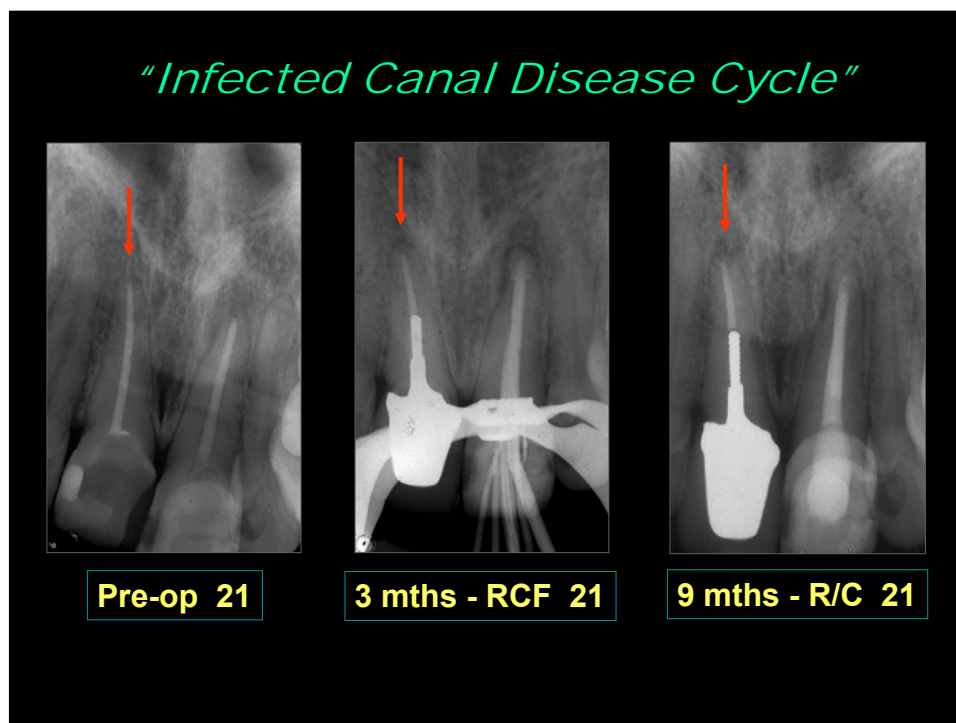
No. of Years	% of cases	Cum. %
< 1	21.2 %	21.2 %
1 - 2	15.8	37.0
2 - 5	24.0	61.0
> 5	39.0	100.0
No. of cases examined:		575

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"Infected Canal Disease Cycle"

- ✓ Small number of bacteria in the canal
 - ✗ Left at time of treatment
- ✓ Gradual proliferation / increase in numbers
- ✓ Periapical response develops
 - ✗ Chronic situation for some time
- Gradual increase in periapical involvement
 - ✗ No symptoms until response well established
- ⊗ Acute phase when conditions suitable
 - ✗ Many factors can affect the "balance" situation
 - ✗ e.g. Other illness, treatment, stress, tiredness, etc
- ⊗ **This cycle can take ?? 3 mths - 5 yrs**

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A new way to consider root-filled teeth with periapical radiolucencies:

- Based on **WHEN** the radiolucency occurs:

① **Early** - occur soon after treatment

↳ *May be a true "failure" of the endodontic treatment - or the operator!!!*

↳ *OR: may be due to a true cyst, an extra-radicular infection, a foreign body reaction or a periapical scar*

② **Late** - occur many years later

↳ **A "new disease" - rather than a "failure" of endodontic treatment**

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Root-Filled Teeth with Radiolucencies

- x Radiolucency may occur many years after endodontic treatment

ú **NOT a FAILURE of endodontics.....**



..... **But a NEW DISEASE**

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Root-Filled Teeth with Radiolucencies

- x Radiolucency may occur many years after endodontic treatment

ú **NOT a FAILURE of endodontics.....**

..... **But a NEW DISEASE**

ú **Bacteria re-enter the tooth**

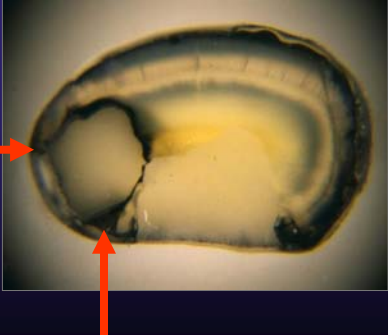
R **Through:**

- Broken down restorations
- Caries
- Cracks
- Trauma - fractures
- Etc, etc

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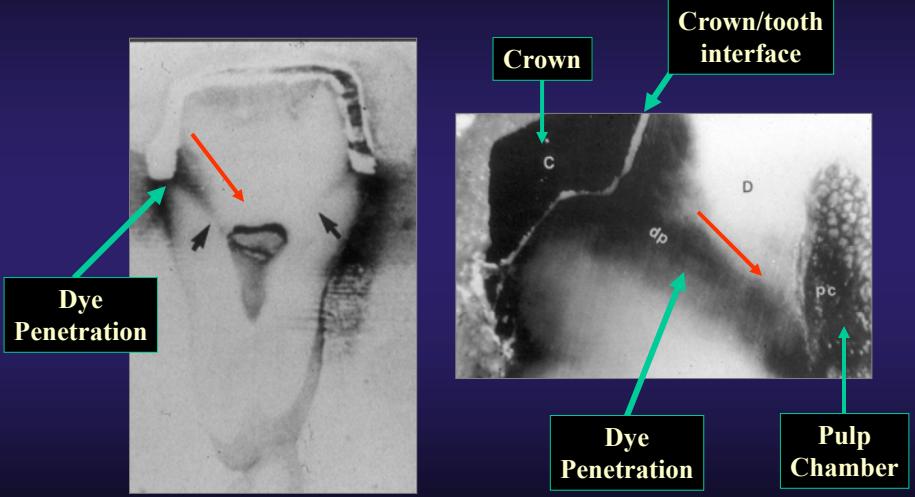
Restoration Breakdown

- q All restorations have a finite life span
- x Bacterial penetration may be occurring for a long time before:
 - o Symptoms
 - o Clinical signs
 - o Caries
 - o Fracture
 - o Dislodgment
 - o etc, etc.....



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Restoration Breakdown



Dye Penetration

Crown

Crown/tooth interface

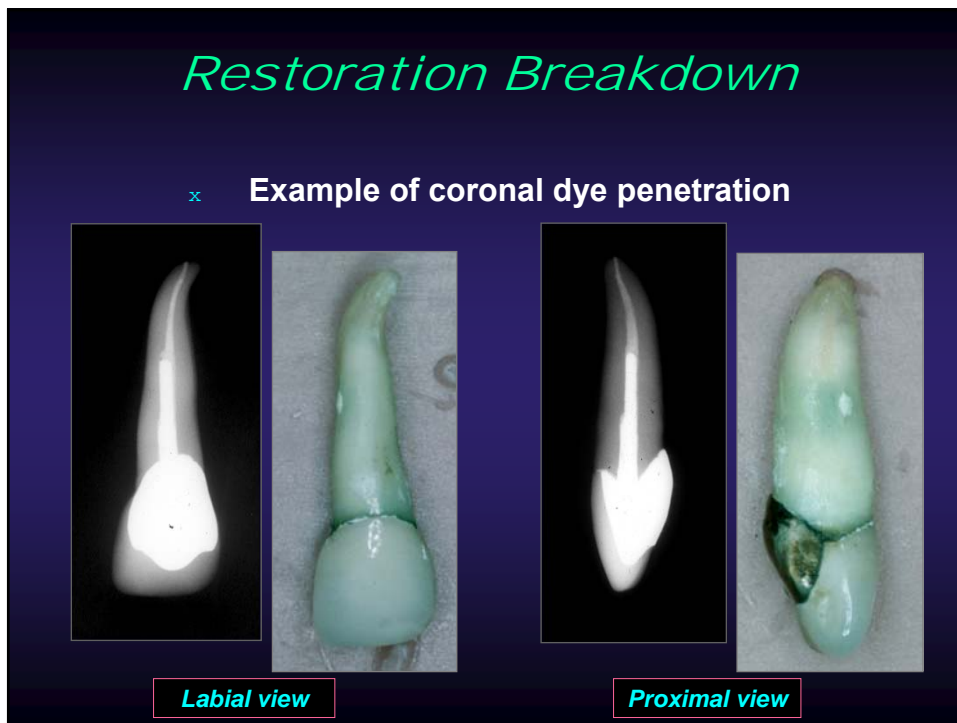
Dye Penetration

Pulp Chamber

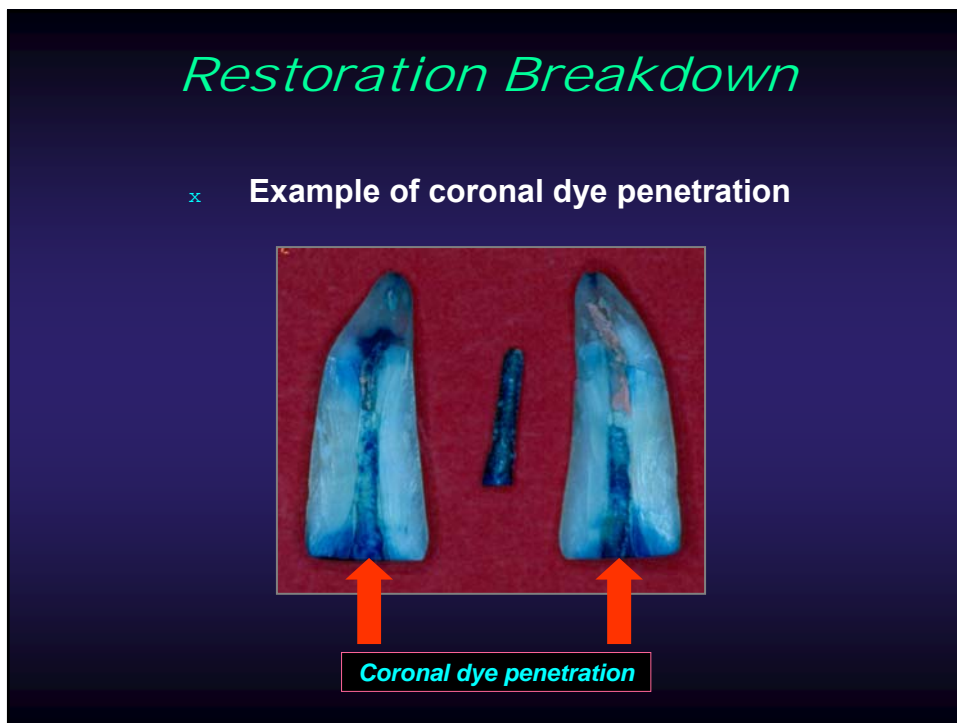
Pashley 1990

Goldman et al 1992

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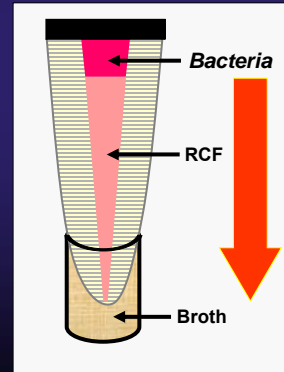
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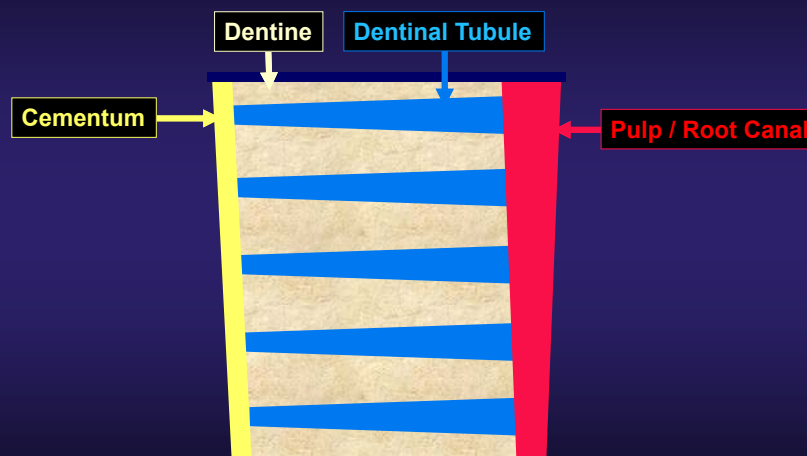
Bacterial Migration

- × Many studies have demonstrated that various bacteria can migrate along the entire length of a root canal filling
 - Coronal ↔ Apical
- × Time for penetration varies
 - e.g. 2 days, 3 days, 20 days, 30 days, 60 days, 90 days, etc.

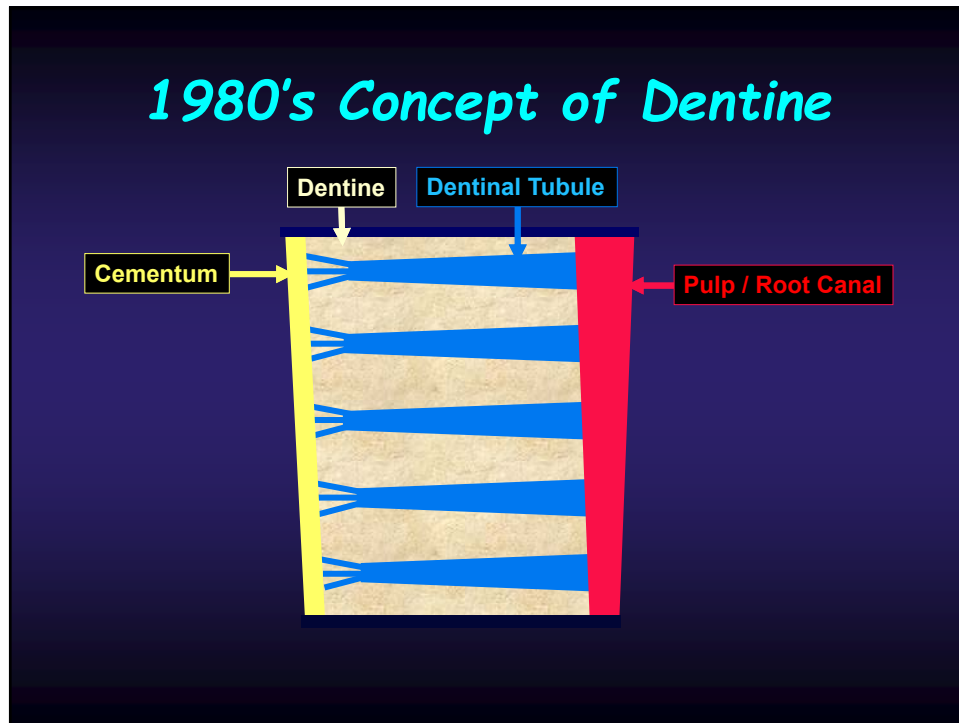


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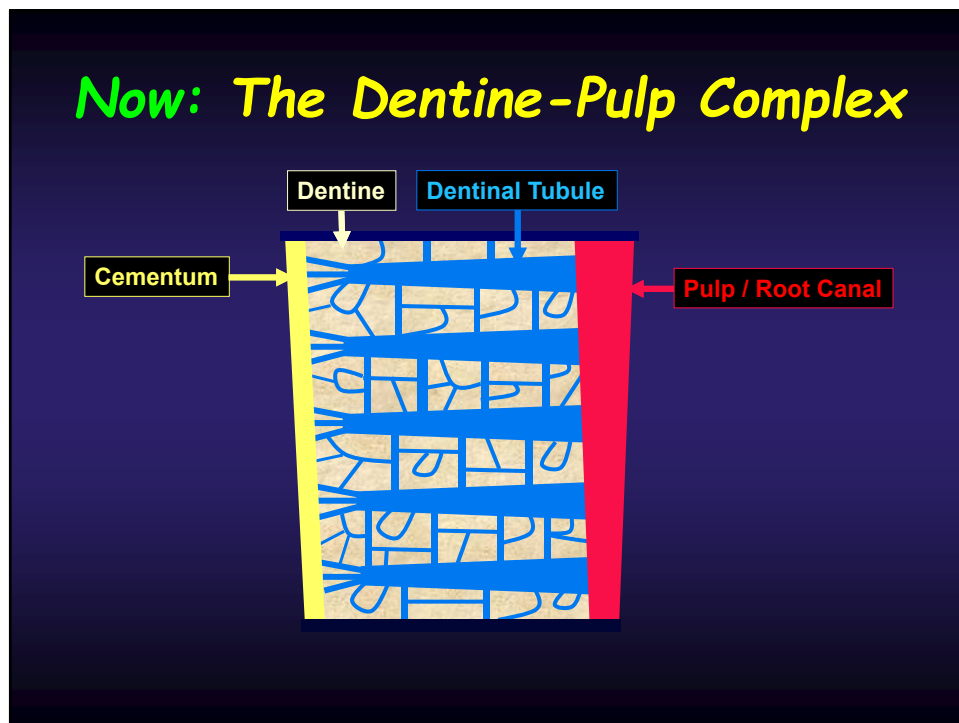
Traditional Concept of Dentine



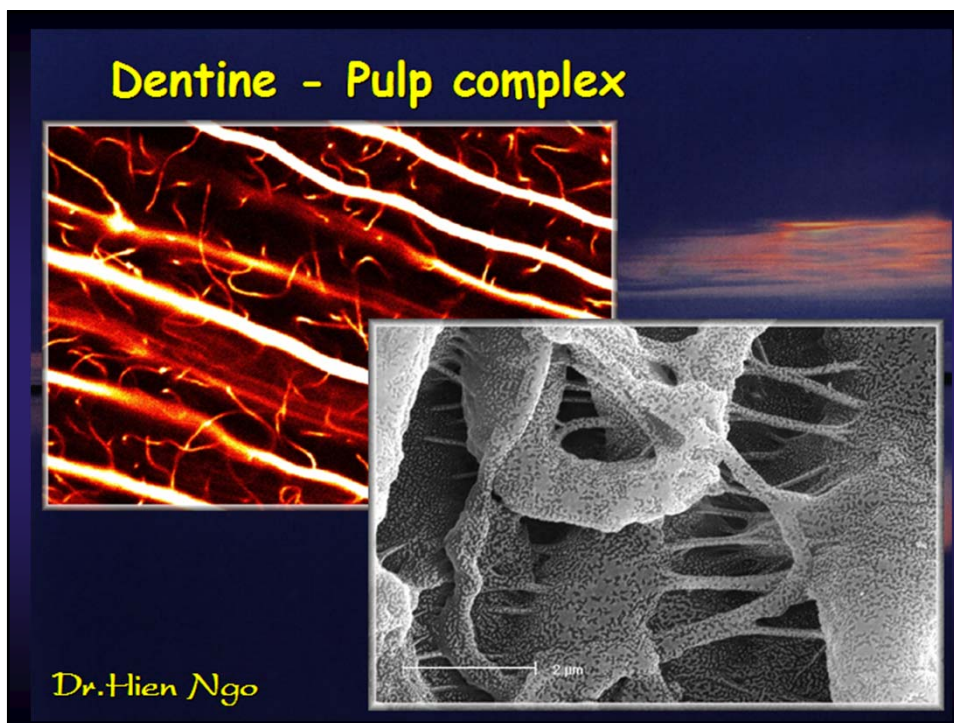
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
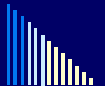




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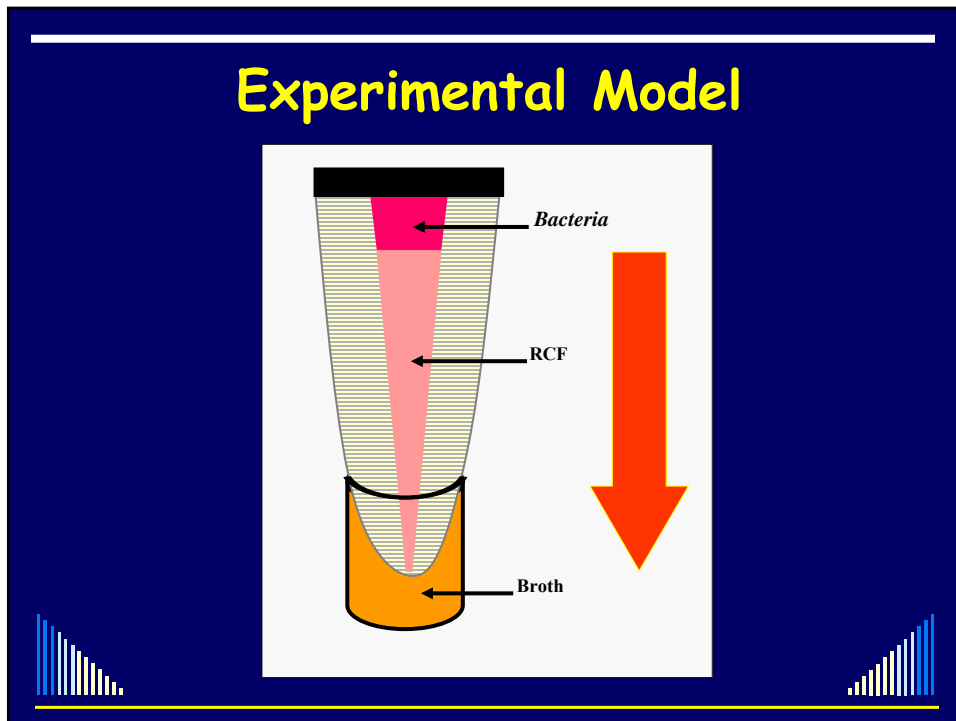
The presence and distribution of bacteria in dentinal tubules of root-filled teeth

Kwang S, Abbott PV.

Int Endo J - 2014; 47, 600 - 610.



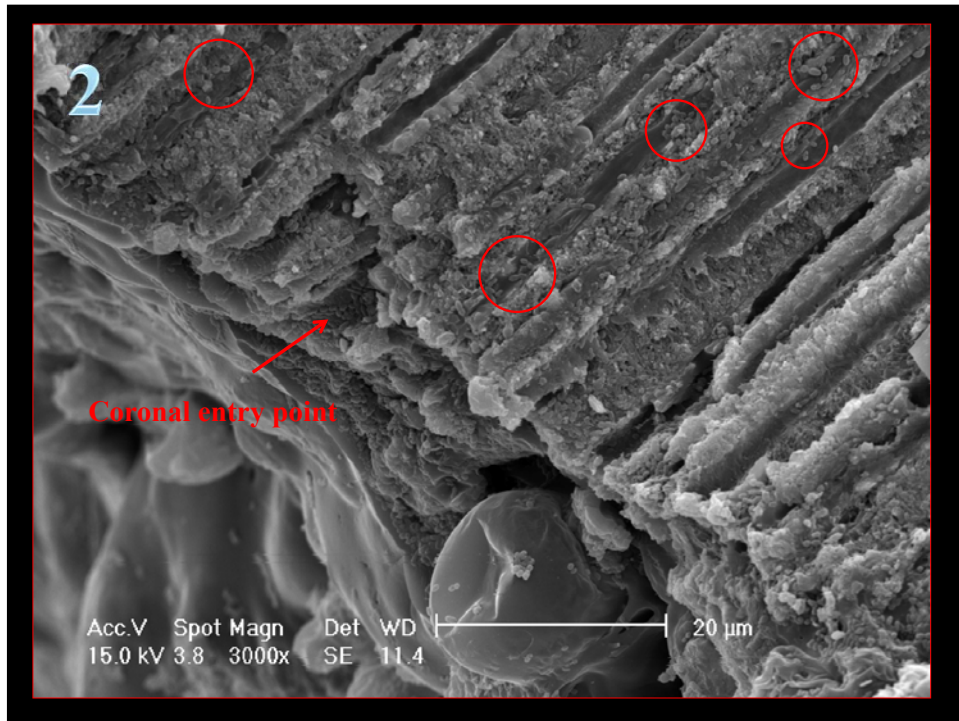
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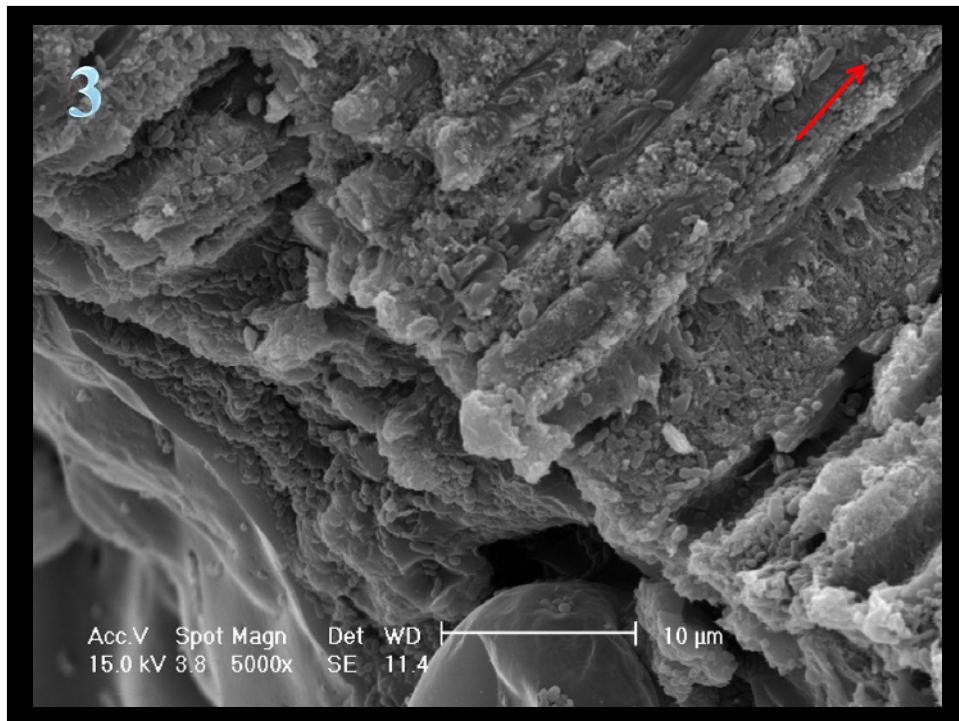
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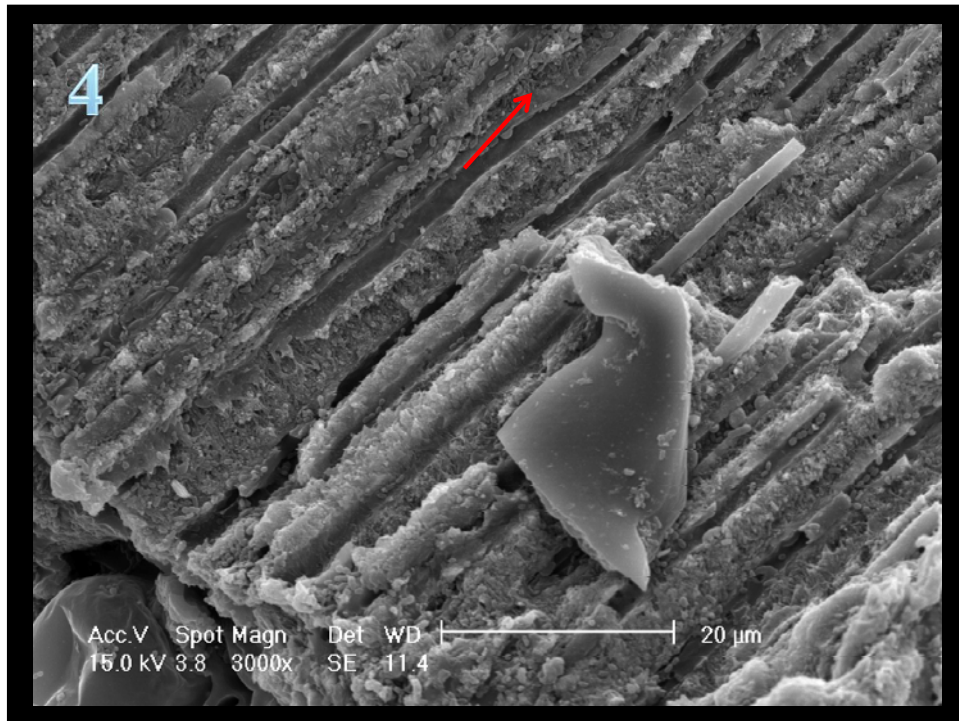
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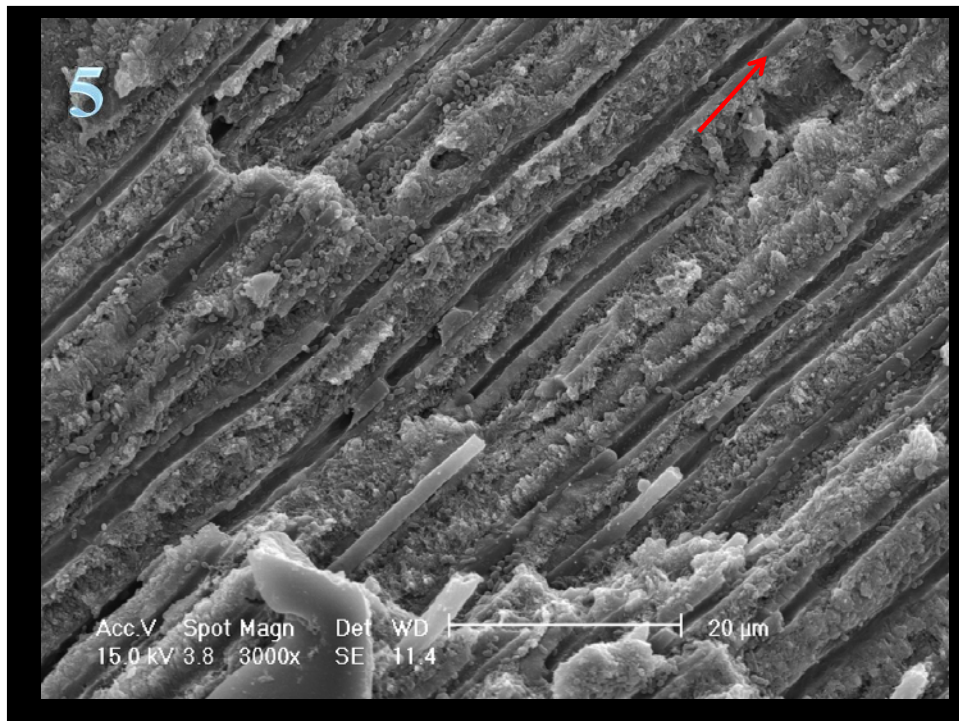
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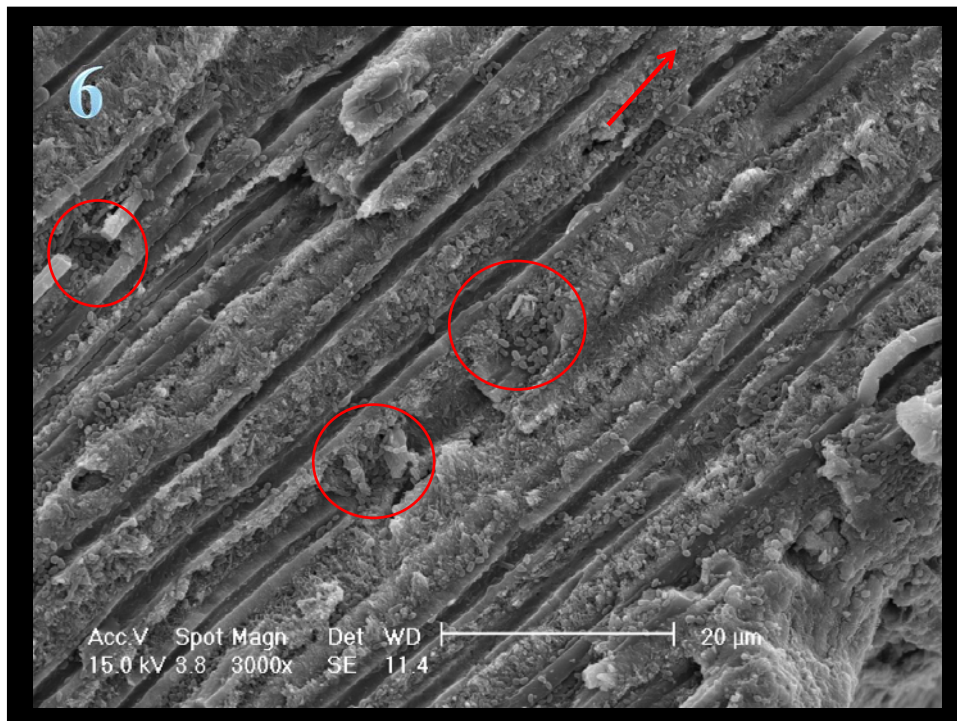
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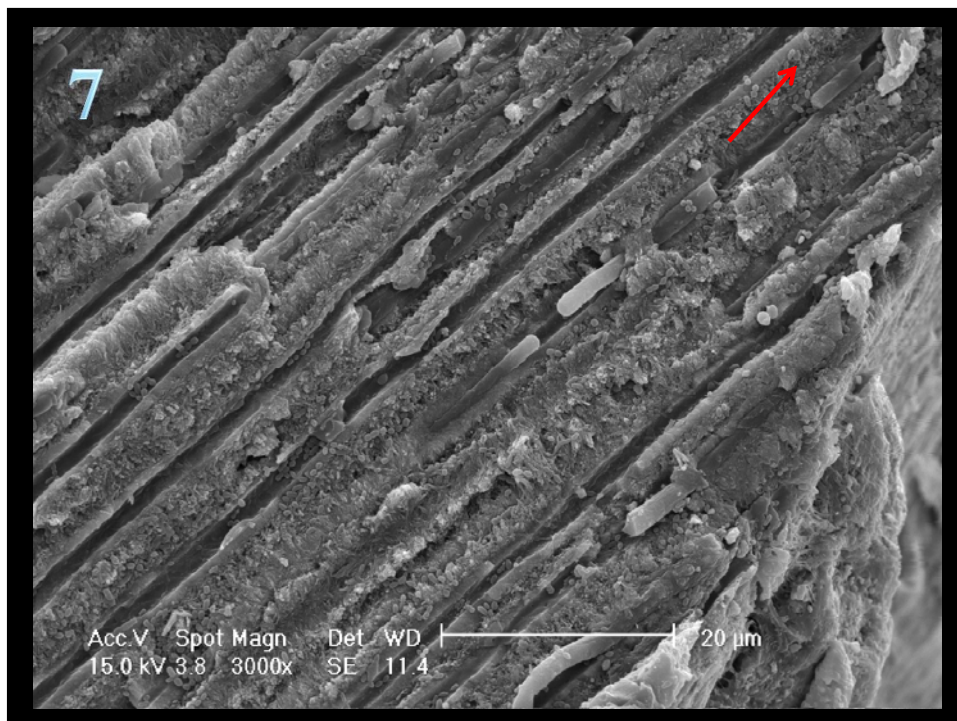
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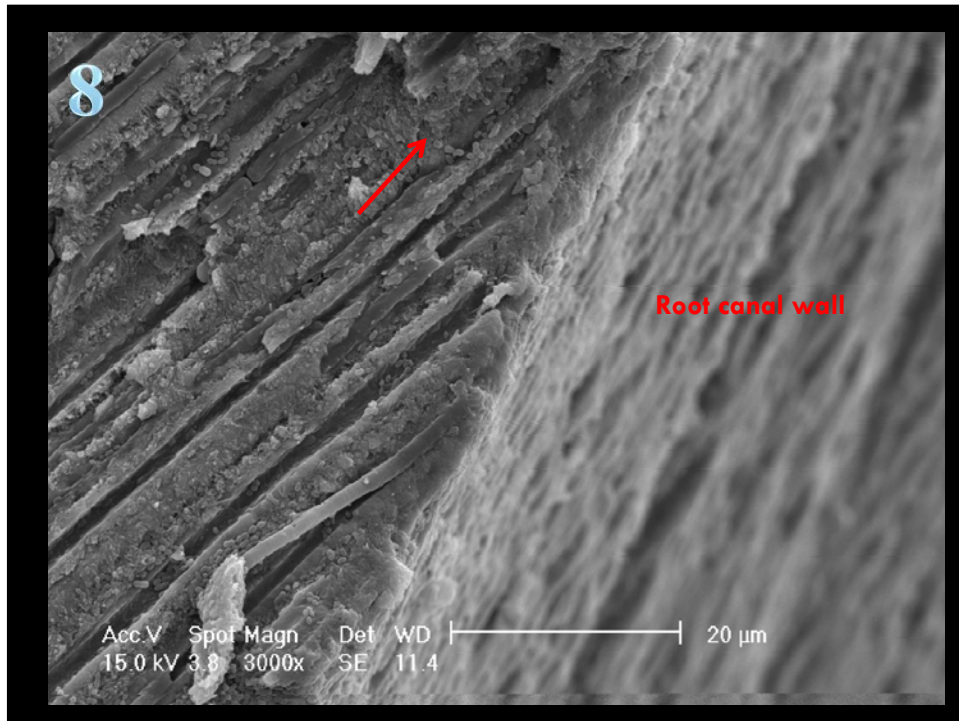
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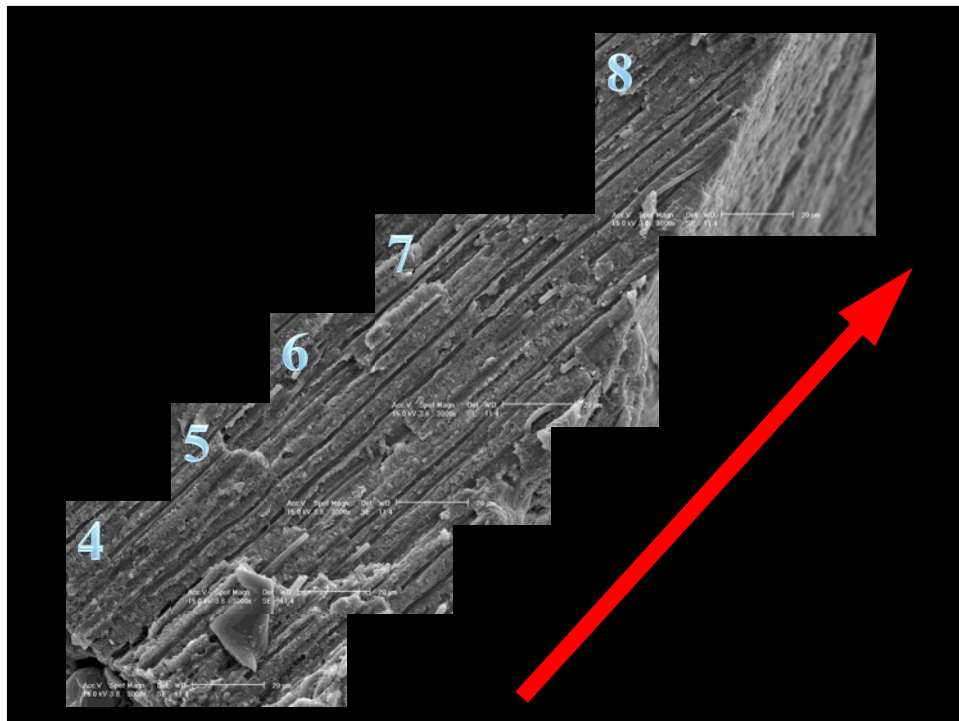
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Effect of Coronal Restorations

Ray & Trope *Int Endod J* 1995

Treatment Outcome - Favourable

RCF's:	Restorations:	
	Good	Poor
Good	91.4 %	44.1 %
Poor	69.6 %	18.1 %

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Effect of Coronal Restorations

Ray & Trope *Int Endod J* 1995

o **Concluded:**

“... The quality of the coronal restoration was more important than the quality of the RCF for apical periodontal healing ...”

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Outcome of Endodontic Treatment

- × **High quality endodontic treatment, based on sound biological principles, will improve the number of favourable outcomes**
 - **By removing intra-radicular bacteria**
 - ↳ with accurate diagnosis, removal of the cause, aseptic techniques, mechanical cleaning, disinfection via irrigation and medication, interim and temporary restorations, good RCF's, final restoration, etc
 - = **By reducing the extrusion of foreign bodies into the periapical tissues**

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Outcome of Endodontic Treatment


- × **BUT: there will be an *upper ceiling* to the number of favourable outcomes that can be achieved by conventional endodontic treatment**
 - Due to the role played by true cysts and extra-radicular bacteria
- × **The highest possible number of favourable outcomes will be limited by the incidence of these pathological entities**

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Persistent Radiolucencies

Due to:

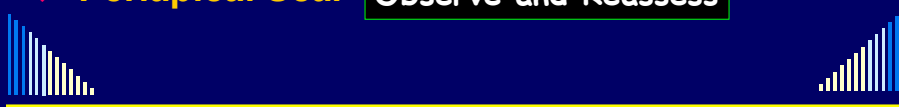
- ◆ Intra-Radicular Infection
- ◆ Extra-Radicular Infection
- ◆ Foreign Body Reaction
- ◆ Periapical True Cyst
- ◆ Periapical Scar



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Guidelines for considering periapical radiolucencies associated with root-filled teeth

<u>Due to:</u>	<u>Initial Management</u>
◆ Intra-Radicular Infection	Endodontic Re-treatment
◆ Extra-Radicular Infection	Periapical Surgery
◆ Foreign Body Reaction	
◆ Periapical True Cyst	
◆ Periapical Scar	Observe and Reassess





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Guidelines for considering periapical radiolucencies associated with root-filled teeth

Due to:

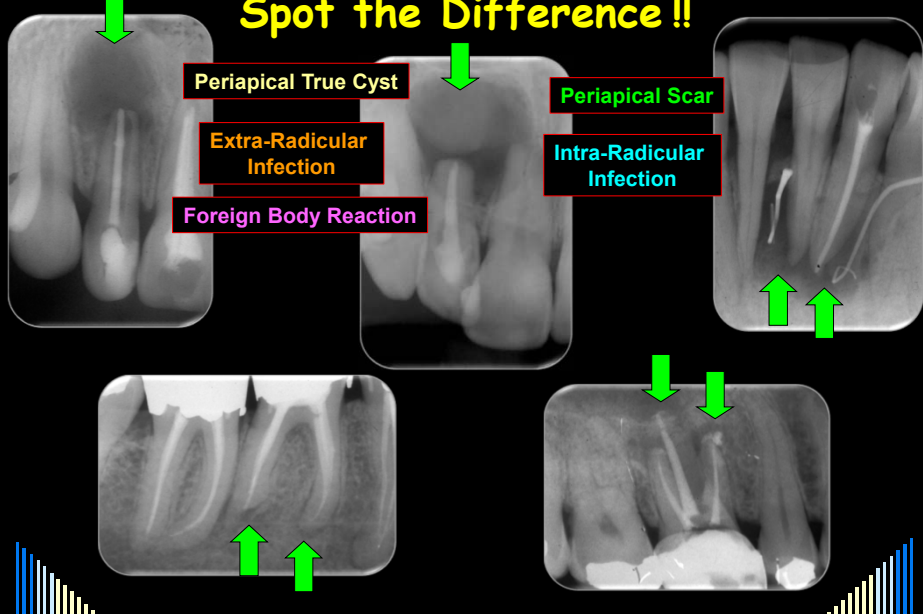
- ◆ Intra-Radicular Infection
- ◆ Extra-Radicular Infection
- ◆ Foreign Body Reaction
- ◆ Periapical True Cyst
- ◆ Periapical Scar

BUT the problem is that we can not clinically differentiate between all these conditions



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Spot the Difference !!





Periapical True Cyst

Extra-Radicular Infection

Foreign Body Reaction

Periapical Scar

Intra-Radicular Infection



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Guidelines for considering periapical radiolucencies associated with root-filled teeth

Due to:

- ◆ Intra-Radicular Infection
- ◆ Extra-Radicular Infection
- ◆ Foreign Body Reaction
- ◆ Periapical True Cyst
- ◆ Periapical Scar

How common are each of these?

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Incidence of Radicular Cysts

Table 1. Incidence of radicular cysts among periapical lesions

Reference	Cysts (%)	Granuloma (%)	Others (%)	Total lesions (n)
Sommer ³⁵	6	84	10	170
Block et al. ⁴⁸	6	94	—	230
Sonnabend and Oh ¹¹	7	93	—	237
Winstock ²⁸	8	83	9	9804*
Linenberg et al. ⁴⁰	9	80	11	110
Wais ³⁹	14	84	2	50
Patterson et al. ⁴⁹	14	84	2	510
Simon ²⁹	17	54	23	35
Stockdale & Chandler ⁵⁰	17	77	6	1108
Lin et al. ³⁶	19	—	81	150
Nobuhara and Del Rio ⁵¹	22	59	19	150
Baumann and Rossman ³⁸	26	74	—	121
Mortensen et al. ⁴²	41	59	—	396
Bhaskar ²⁵	42	48	10	2308
Spatatore et al. ⁵²	42	52	6	1659
Lalonde and Luebke ²⁷	44	45	11	800
Seltzer et al. ²⁶	51	45	4	87
Priebe et al. ²⁴	55	46	—	101

Cysts: 6 - 55%
 Granuloma: 0 - 94%
 "Others": 0 - 81%

 Total: 13,026 lesions

Nair et al - OS:OM:OP:OR:Endo 1996

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Biopsy Reports - Various Studies

Diagnosis	Nair <i>et al</i> 1996
Periapical Granuloma	35%
Periapical Abscess	50%
Periapical Cyst	6% - Pocket 9% - True
Periapical Scar	N/R
Foreign Body Reaction	N/R
Extra-Radicular Infection	N/R
Keratocyst	N/R

- ◆ Few patients had pain
- ◆ Not all teeth had RCF
- ◆ Most had extensive caries or coronal breakdown
- ◆ All teeth were extracted
- ◆ Periapical soft tissue lesion had to be attached to tooth apex
- ◆ *“Represented an unknown fraction of all teeth extracted with periapical radiolucencies”*
- ◆ Complete serial sectioning
- ◆ Light microscopy and TEM

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Biopsy Reports - Various Studies

Diagnosis	Nair <i>et al</i> 1996	Abbott 1999
Periapical Granuloma	35%	61%
Periapical Abscess	50%	4%
Periapical Cyst	6% - Pocket 9% - True	14%
Periapical Scar	N/R	1%
Foreign Body Reaction	N/R	20%
Extra-Radicular Infection	N/R	2% Actinomycosis
Keratocyst	N/R	N/R

- ◆ Biopsies during surgery
- ◆ Most teeth had Root Canal Re-treatment before surgery
- ◆ Half had previous apical surgery – esp. with retrograde amalgam
- ◆ Many had over-extended previous RCF
- ◆ Some had continual pain or infection despite RC Re-tx
- ◆ Light microscopy – only a few sections viewed

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Biopsy Reports - Various Studies

Diagnosis	Nair <i>et al</i> 1996	Abbott 1999	Love & Firth 2009
Periapical Granuloma	35%	61%	77%
Periapical Abscess	50%	4%	3%
Periapical Cyst	6% - Pocket 9% - True	14%	18%
Periapical Scar	N/R	1%	3%
Foreign Body Reaction	N/R	20%	25% in a granuloma 2% in cysts 1% in scars
Extra-Radicular Infection	N/R	2% Actinomycosis	N/R
Keratocyst	N/R	N/R	N/R

- ◆ Biopsies during surgery
- ◆ R'lucency persisting for >4 years or enlarging
- ◆ Some patients had pain
- ◆ RCT not possible - or already performed but no healing
- ◆ Light microscopy – up to four sections viewed

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Biopsy Reports - Various Studies

Diagnosis	Nair <i>et al</i> 1996	Abbott 1999	Love & Firth 2009	Schultz <i>et al</i> 2009	Wang <i>et al</i> 2004	Becconsall-Ryan <i>et al</i> 2010
Periapical Granuloma	35%	61%	77%	70%	83%	65%
Periapical Abscess	50%	4%	3%	5%	N/R	3%
Periapical Cyst	6% - Pocket 9% - True	14%	18%	23%	14%	32%
Periapical Scar	N/R	1%	3%	1%	3%	1%
Foreign Body Reaction	N/R	20%	25% in a granuloma 2% in cysts 1% in scars	N/R	N/R	N/R
Extra-Radicular Infection	N/R	2% Actinomycosis	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R
Keratocyst	N/R	N/R	N/R	1%	N/R	N/R

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Outcome of Endodontic Treatment

- ◆ BUT: even with high quality “intra canal treatment”, there will still be an *upper limit* to the number of favourable outcomes that can be achieved by conventional endodontic treatment Largely determined by the incidence of:

◆ Residual intracanal bacteria	→ ??	35 - 83 %
◆ Extra-radicular infection	→ ??	2 %
◆ Peri-radicular true cysts	→ ??	9 %
◆ Foreign body reactions	→ ??	20 - 25 %
◆ Periapical scars	→ ??	1 - 3 %

Biopsy studies - limited value - only the % of the biopsies examined, not the % in all patients

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Specialist Endodontic Practice Service Mix - Surgical Cases

- ◆ 1986 - 1990
 - 10.6% of all cases treated
 - Abbott - *J Endod* 1994; 20: 253-7
- ◆ 1995 - 1999
 - 1% of cases
- ◆ 2005 - 2010
 - 0.1% of cases



66

Guidelines for considering periapical radiolucencies associated with root-filled teeth

Due to:

- ◆ Intra-Radicular Infection
- ◆ Extra-Radicular Infection
- ◆ Foreign Body Reaction
- ◆ Periapical True Cyst
- ◆ Periapical Scar



Usually also have an infected root canal system - often the first problem



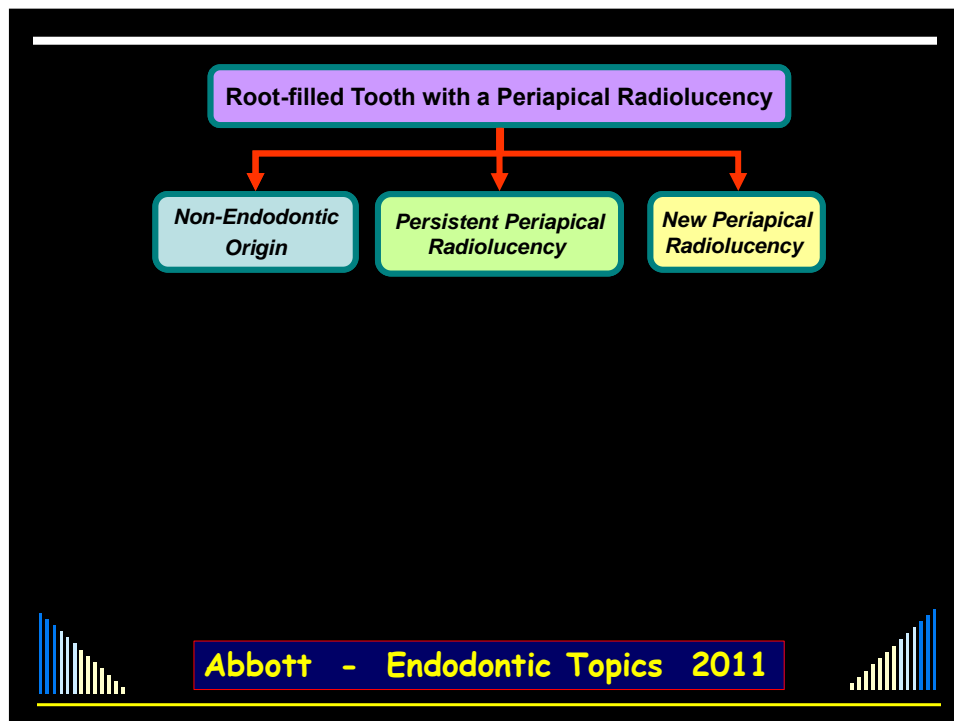
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Guidelines for considering periapical radiolucencies associated with root-filled teeth

- ◆ **Ideally: do endodontic re-treatment first since most periapical radiolucencies are caused by, or are associated with, intra-radicular bacteria**
 - Then the treatment will be more predictable and the rate of favourable outcomes will be higher
 - Since the cause of the radiolucency is addressed
- ◆ **If still no healing, consider periapical surgery**
 - If re-treatment before surgery: 24% higher rate of healing than when surgery done alone (Grung *et al* - 1990)



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Differential diagnoses for periapical radiolucencies associated with root-filled teeth

1. A lesion that mimics a periapical radiolucency but is not endodontic in origin
2. A persistent radiolucency on a recently root-filled tooth (< 5 years ago) due to one of the following:
 - An intra-radicular infection
 - An extra-radicular infection
 - A foreign body reaction
 - A periapical true cyst, or
 - A periapical scar
3. A new radiolucency due to:
 - Any of the above presenting as a new lesion on a tooth that had the RCF done > 5 years ago

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Differential diagnoses for periapical radiolucencies associated with root-filled teeth

1. A lesion that mimics a periapical radiolucency but is not endodontic in origin

Radiolucent lesions of the jaws that may present as "periapical" pathoses and should be considered as part of the differential diagnosis of such pathoses.

EPITHELIAL CYSTS	
Developmental Odontogenic	Non-Odontogenic
Odontogenic keratocyst	Neoplasma duct cyst
Odontogenic cyst	Radical cyst
Lateral periodontal cyst	
Stenohyal odontogenic cyst	

NEOPLASMS AND OTHER TUMOURS	
Odontogenic	Non-Odontogenic
Benign	Benign
Ameloblastoma	Calcifying odontogenic fibroma
Radicular odontogenic tumour	Neurofibroma
Clear cell odontogenic tumour	Neurofibroma
Ameloblastic fibroma	Odontoma
Ameloblastic fibroepithelioma	Chondroma
Odontomatous keratocyst	Malignant histiocytoma
Adenomatoid odontogenic tumour	
Calcifying odontogenic cyst	MALIGNANT
Odontogenic fibroma	Ewing's sarcoma
Odontogenic myxoma	Chondrosarcoma
Benign cementoblastoma	Osteosarcoma
CARCINOMAS	Neuritic sarcoma
Basaloid ameloblastoma	Carcinoma of the maxillary sinus
Primary intraosseous carcinoma	Malignant fibrous histiocytoma
Malignant variants of other odontogenic tumours	Burkitt's lymphoma
Malignant changes in odontogenic cysts	Metastatic carcinoma
SARCOMAS	Primary lymphoma of bone
Ameloblastic fibrosarcoma	Plasma cell myeloma
Ameloblastic fibroepithelioma	- Solitary plasmocytoma
Odontogenic sarcoma	- Multiple myeloma
	Malignant salivary gland tumours

NON-NEOPLASTIC BONE LESIONS	INFLAMMATORY LESIONS
Alveolar dysplasia	Radiolar cysts (of pulp origin)
Compensatory fibrosis & cemento-osseous dysplasia	- Apical, furca, parast
(including periapical cemental dysplasia and Fordyce's dysplasia)	- Lateral
Chondroma	- Horizontal
Central giant cell lesion	Periapical cysts - including
Central haemangioma of bone	- Inflammatory radiolar cyst
Chronic osteomyelitis	- Maxillary infected buccal cyst
Idiopathic bone cyst	Parodontal abscess
Simple (traumatocyst/hydrarthrosis) bone cyst	Condensing osteitis
	- Silver stained idiopathic bone sclerosis
	Periodontal abscess
	Osteomyelitis
	Tuberculosis

METABOLIC DISEASES
Page 4, Section 2 (not shown)
Hypoparathyroidism

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Root-filled Tooth with a Periapical Radiolucency

Non-Endodontic Origin

See Table

Refer patient to appropriate dental and/or medical specialist

Review to confirm diagnosis and to ensure healing with no dental problems

Radiolucent lesions of the jaws that may present as "periapical" pathoses and should be considered as part of the differential diagnosis of such pathoses.

EPITHELIAL CYSTS	
Developmental Odontogenic	Non-Odontogenic
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	- Silver stained idiopathic bone sclerosis
	Periodontal abscess
	Osteomyelitis
	Tuberculosis

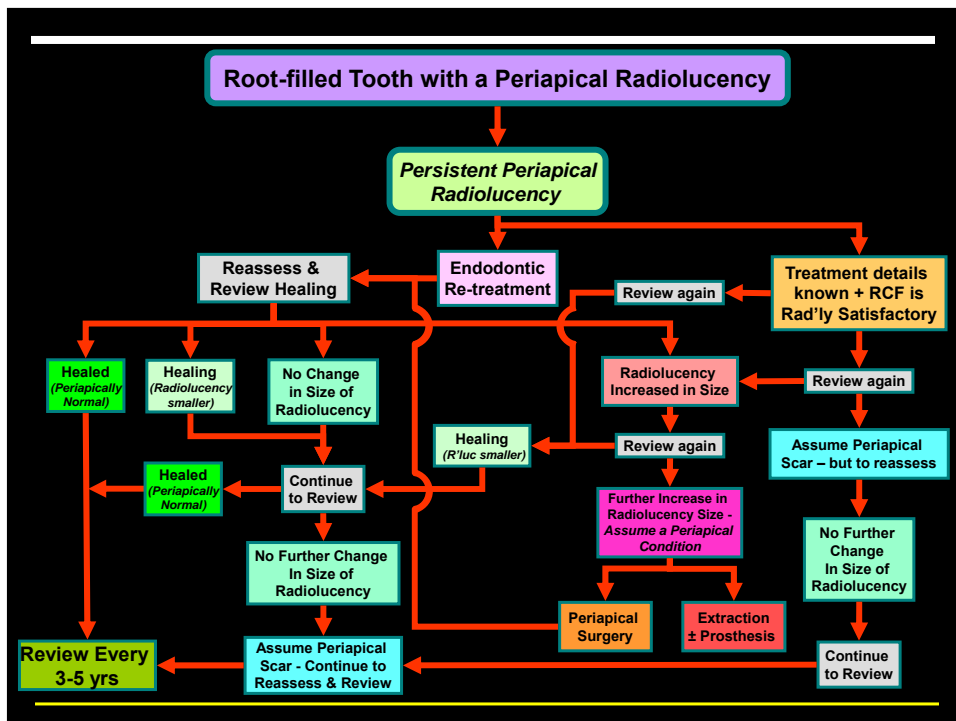
METABOLIC DISEASES
Page 4, Section 2 (not shown)
Hypoparathyroidism

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Differential diagnoses for periapical radiolucencies associated with root-filled teeth

2. A persistent radiolucency on a recently root-filled tooth (< 5 years ago) due to one of the following:
 - A. An intra-radicular infection
 - B. An extra-radicular Infection
 - C. A foreign body reaction
 - D. A periapical true cyst, or
 - E. A periapical scar

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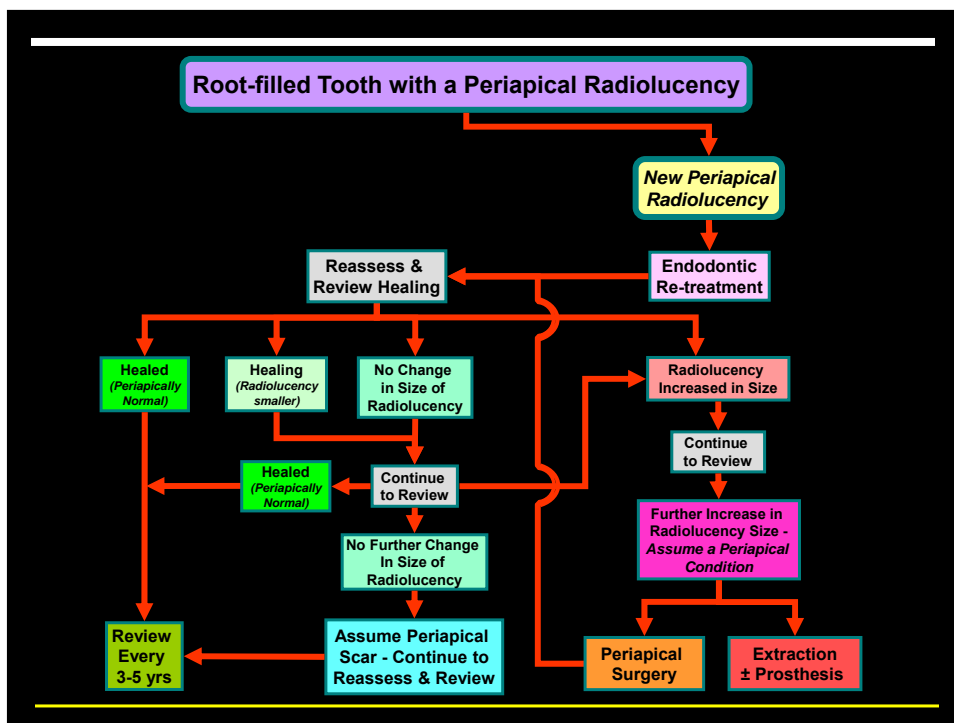
Differential diagnoses for periapical radiolucencies associated with root-filled teeth

3. A new radiolucency due to:

- Any of the following presenting as a new lesion on a tooth that had the RCF done > 5 years ago
 - A. Apical Periodontitis**
 - 2° Acute Apical Periodontitis
 - Chronic Apical Periodontitis
 - Foreign Body reaction
 - B. Infection**
 - 2° Acute Apical Abscess
 - Chronic Apical Abscess
 - Extra-Radicular Infection
 - C. Periapical Cyst**
 - Pocket Cyst
 - True Cyst
 - D. Periapical Scar**

Most common + due to an infected root canal system

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Guidelines for considering periapical radiolucencies associated with root-filled teeth

SUMMARY

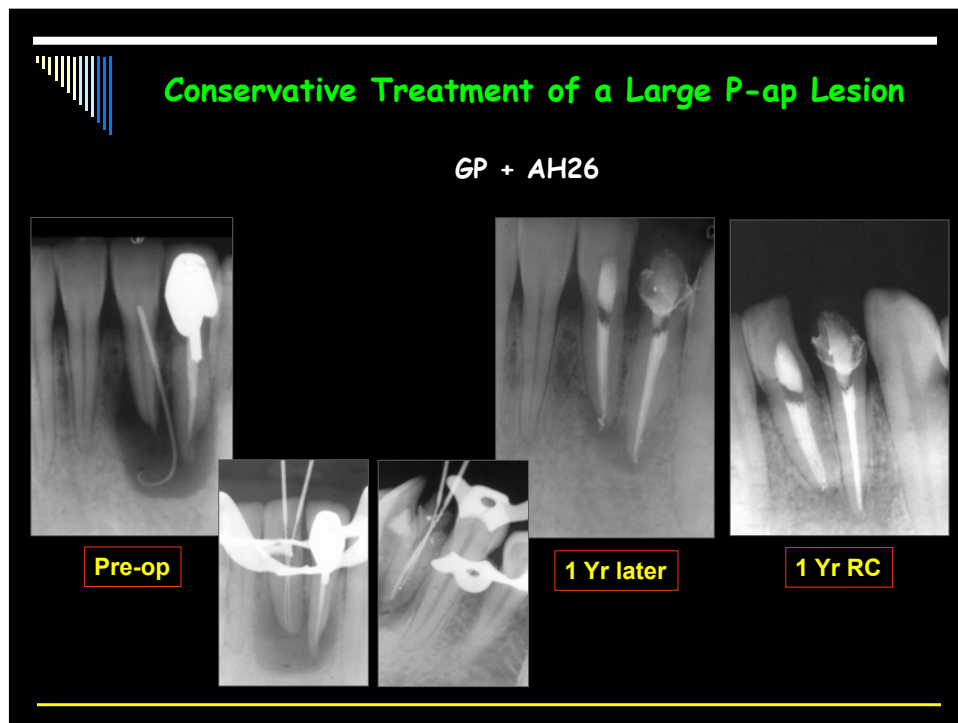
- **Do endodontic re-treatment first !!!**

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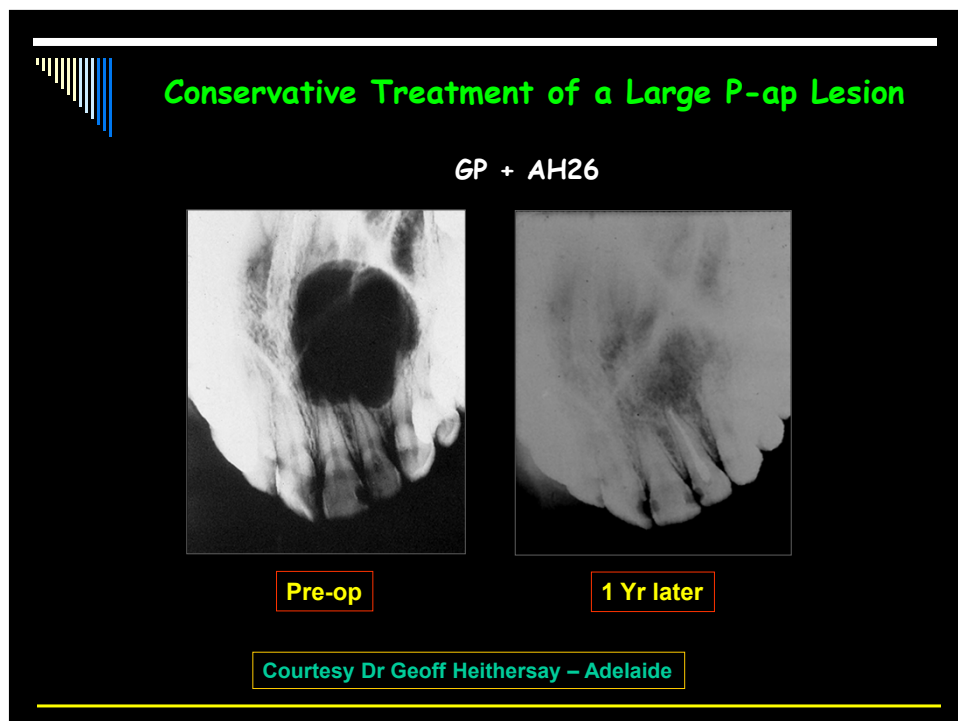
Managing Persistent Radiolucencies

- ◆ Ideally: do endodontic re-treatment first since most periapical radiolucencies are caused by, or are associated with, intra-radicular bacteria
 - Therefore the rate of favourable outcomes will be higher
 - **As shown by Grung *et al* (1990):**
 - If re-treatment before surgery
 - ✦ 24% higher rate of healing than when surgery was done alone

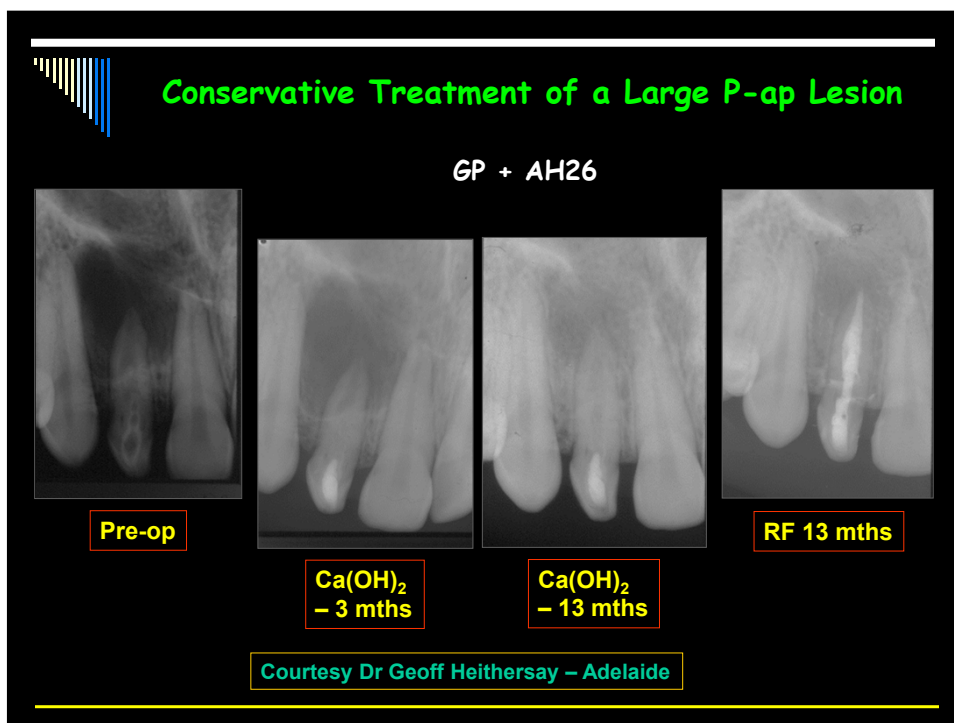
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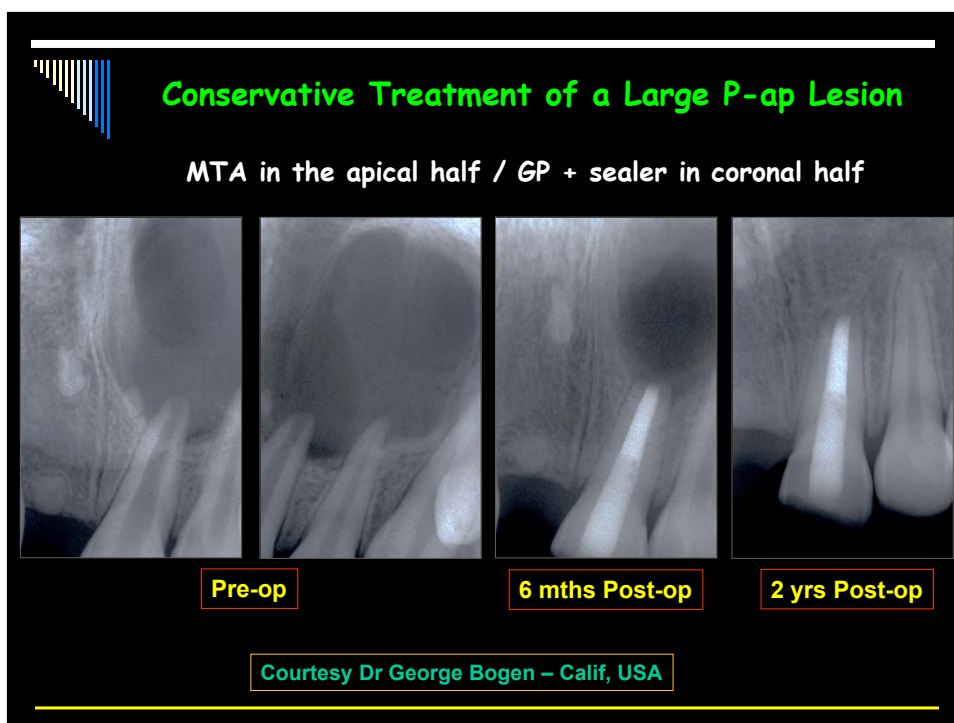
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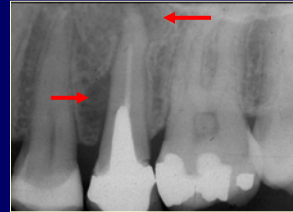


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Management Options

- What are the options?

- ✕ No treatment
- ✕ Extraction
- ✕ Surgery
- ✕ Re-treatment



➤ ***It depends on the DIAGNOSIS !!!***

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