RE-ROOT CANAL TREATMENT

To effectively retreat a previously treated root canal to eliminate infection and restore tooth health following treatment plan can be considered.

Patient Preparation:

Review medical history and assess the reason for failure (persistent infection, missed canals, inadequate seal, etc.)

Take diagnostic radiographs (pre-op X-rays) and inform the patient of treatment risks, prognosis and obtain informed consent.

Isolation:

Apply a rubber dam to ensure proper isolation and prevent contamination

Access Opening:

Remove the existing restoration using a high-speed handpiece. Carefully access the previously treated root canal system

Old filling removal and assessment:

Remove the old root canal filling material (gutta-percha) using hand files, re-treatment rotary files, or solvent. Ensure all filling material is removed using radiograph.

Use apex locators and radiographs to confirm working length and check for any missed or additional canals.

Evaluate for any perforations or fractures.

Root canal cleaning and shaping:

Thoroughly clean and shape the canals using hand or rotary files to reach the working length.

Irrigate frequently with sodium hypochlorite to disinfect and remove debris, alternating with EDTA to remove the smear layer coupled with ultrasonic activation for effective microbial elimination.

Obturation:

Once the canals are cleaned and dried, apply an endodontic sealer. Obturate the canal with gutta-percha using lateral or vertical condensation.

Access restoration:

Place a filling material to seal the access cavity.

Follow-up:

Schedule follow-up appointments to monitor healing and ensure proper resolution of infection.

Plan for full coverage crown to restore tooth function and longevity (if the existing crown is removed to access root canal initially).