



## **The roots of health**

November 10, 2006

Regarding your Nov. 3 Check It Out item "Comfy as a root canal?," about our recently released survey results:

Although the article contained the AAE's accurate survey results about Americans' views of root canals, it continued to perpetuate the myth that root canals are painful, uncomfortable and fear-inducing. All-too-often this misperception prevents people from seeking necessary dental care.

New technology and techniques used by endodontists have rendered root canals virtually pain-free. In fact, most patients who have had a root canal performed by an endodontist describe the procedure as virtually painless. Emerging research continues to demonstrate the positive relationship between oral health and systemic health. Therefore, it is vital that patients recognize the importance of improving the health, functionality and longevity of their natural teeth with root canals and other procedures pioneered by endodontists.

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