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Check It Out

Comfy as a root canal?

According to a just-released survey by the American Association of Endodontists, 48.5 percent of us believe root canals are "excruciating" -- that they're a long and painful procedure. Also according to the AAE: 48.5 percent of us don't know what we're talking about.

That's not a survey finding, that's their opinion.

"Despite being surrounded by misconceptions," claims the AAE, "root canal procedures are actually the most comfortable, effective and safest way to save the natural tooth."

Comfortable?

Further, the AAE engages in some apples/oranges logic. "The most widely held myth surrounding root canals is that the procedure itself is long and painful. However, root canal treatments actually relieve pain."

Sure, in the end, no pain. But that has nothing to do with the road getting there.

We're not suggesting the experience -- which we've gone through three times -- is akin to biting down on a bullet and taking a shot of whiskey as a vise-grip wielding endodontist plants a foot on your chest. But "comfortable"?

We think not.