At the center of every tooth is a pulp canal filled with blood vessels and nerves which provide nourishment and sensation to the tooth. Teeth that are diseased, injured or have a non-vital (dead) pulp canal may be treated with endodontic therapy.

When a tooth is broken and the pulp tissues are exposed, endodontic therapy may be an excellent treatment option.

Root canal therapy is a type of endodonic treatment that allows the tooth to remain functional while also providing a much shorter, less painful recovery period than a dental extraction. This is our preferred method of treatment for fractured or non-vital (dead) strategic teeth. During root canal therapy, the contents of the pulp chamber are removed. The chamber is then sterilized, filled and sealed in order to prevent bacteria from entering the tooth and causing painful infection. In some cases, a metal crown may be indicated.

When a tooth has been recently fractured, vital pulp therapy is a form of endodontic treatment that may be appropriate to keep the tooth both alive and functional. Using this method, medications are applied to the pulp tissue and the tooth is restored and sealed. This form of endodontic treatment is especially important to allow a young tooth to continue to mature and strengthen.