



Removal of a Separated File

Contributed By: Dr. Michael Gossack – January 2003



Figure 1: The first radiograph is the preop radiograph of a 33 year old female patient referred by her general dentist who had started root canal treatment on tooth 47 and had separated a file in the apical third of the MLI canal.

The treatment advised was attempting to remove the separated file and complete endodontic treatment though the patient was warned the chances of success were limited due to the position of the instrument.

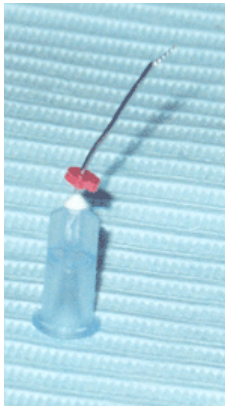
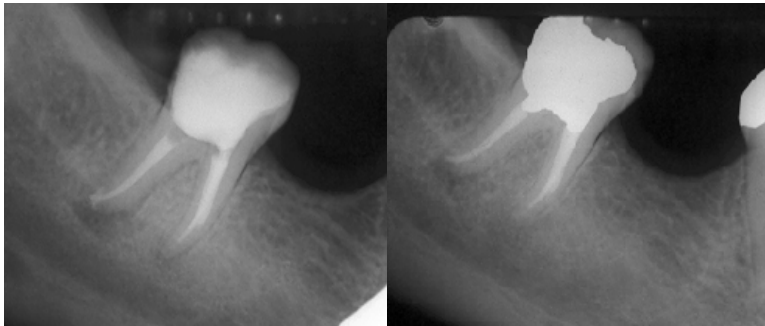


Figure 2: Despite its position it was possible to visualize the tip of the file with the microscope. A platform was made around the separated instrument with a flattened gates glidden drill. An ultrasonic tip was used to trough around the separated file to expose about 1.5 mm circumferentially.

Self curing composite resin was placed into the lumen of a 22 gauge Ultradent Endo Eze tip and fit over the exposed separated file and allowed to set. When the tip was removed from the canal the separated file came out embedded in the resin as seen in the photograph.



Figures 3/4: The second radiograph shows the completion of root canal treatment and the third radiograph is a follow up taken 11 months later