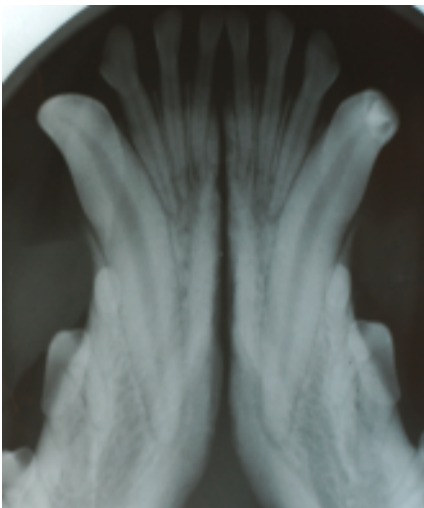


VITAL PULPOTOMY



THE CAROLINAS ANIMAL HOSPITAL & DENTAL CLINIC

A **VITAL PULPOTOMY** is a procedure performed on a **VERY** recently fractured tooth (optimally within 72 hours). In order to minimize the risk of infection and continued pain, several steps are followed to essentially fill the tip of the tooth. By performing a vital pulpotomy instead of a root canal, the tooth will remain alive. With time, the tooth canal will become more narrow and the tooth will strengthen.



X-rays of the tooth confirm proper placement of the filling materials and a special light is used to cure or harden the composite material on the surface of the tooth. Proper post-operative care is essential for long term success. Chewing on inappropriate toys, bones or materials, playing tug of war games and any activity that can compromise the tooth must be avoided. **SIX MONTHS** after the vital pulpotomy we will recheck an x-ray to confirm the health of the tooth. If the tooth appears healthy, at that time impressions can be made of the tooth for a **CROWN**. By placing a crown over the tooth, it restores a significant amount of durability and strength to the tooth.