

Naturopathic Medicine: Dental Health

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Naturopathic Medicine

A distinct system of primary health care.

An art, science, philosophy and practice of diagnosis, treatment and prevention of illness.

Holistic approach which combines safe and effective traditional therapies with the most current advances in modern medicine.

Naturopathic Training

- Naturopathic physicians (NDs) attend 4+ years of an accredited medical school plus board exams
- NDs learn conventional medical sciences for diagnosis of disease.
- The curriculum for the first two years of ND and MD training are very similar.

Naturopathic Training

- In addition, Naturopathic physicians learn:
 - Clinical nutrition
 - Botanical medicine
 - Homeopathy
 - Hydrotherapy
 - Physical Medicine
 - Counseling
 - Mind/body medicine
 - Pharmacology

Naturopathic Scope of Practice

- Licensed Primary care physician in the State of Oregon
- General Practice including diagnosis of disease using standard means (physical exam, lab tests, diagnostic tests)
- OB/GYN, minor surgery, Injection therapy, IV Therapy
- Insurance coverage
- Full Formulary

Naturopathic Philosophy

- First Do No Harm
- The Healing Power of Nature
- Treat the Cause
- Treat the Whole Person
- Prevention
- Doctor as Teacher

Philosophy of Disease

- Western medicine views disease as an entity which “attacks” the body resulting in a focus on symptom management.
- Naturopathic philosophy believes that disease means “*Dis-Ease*”, or rather an imbalance in the body – correct that and symptoms go away

Naturopathic Treatment Goals

- Find and treat the *cause*, not the *symptoms*
- Treat the whole person; physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually

Naturopathic Treatment Goals

- Remove the obstacles to cure
- Support the body's innate healing powers

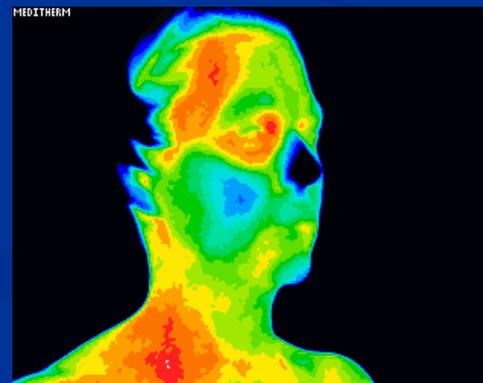
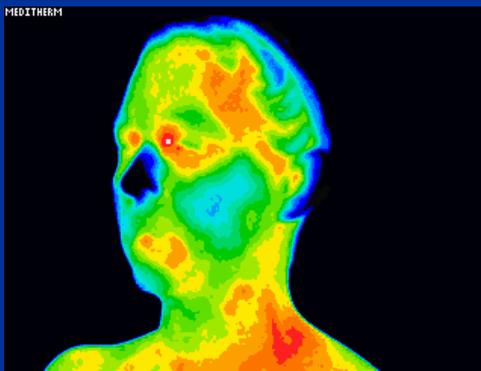
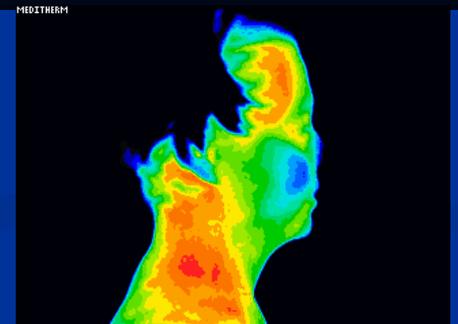
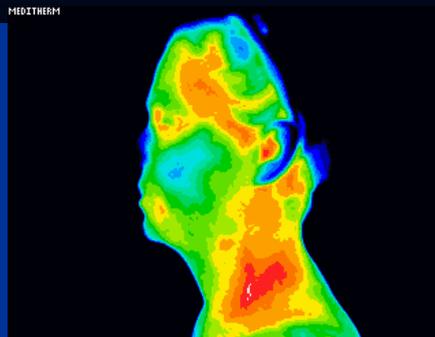
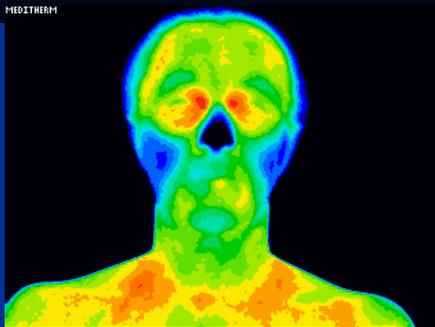
Thermography

Thermography is a physiologic test, which demonstrates thermal patterns in skin temperature that may be normal or which may indicate disease or other abnormality. If abnormal heat patterns are identified relating to a specific region of interest or function, clinical correlation and further investigation may be necessary to assist in diagnosis and treatment.

Thermography

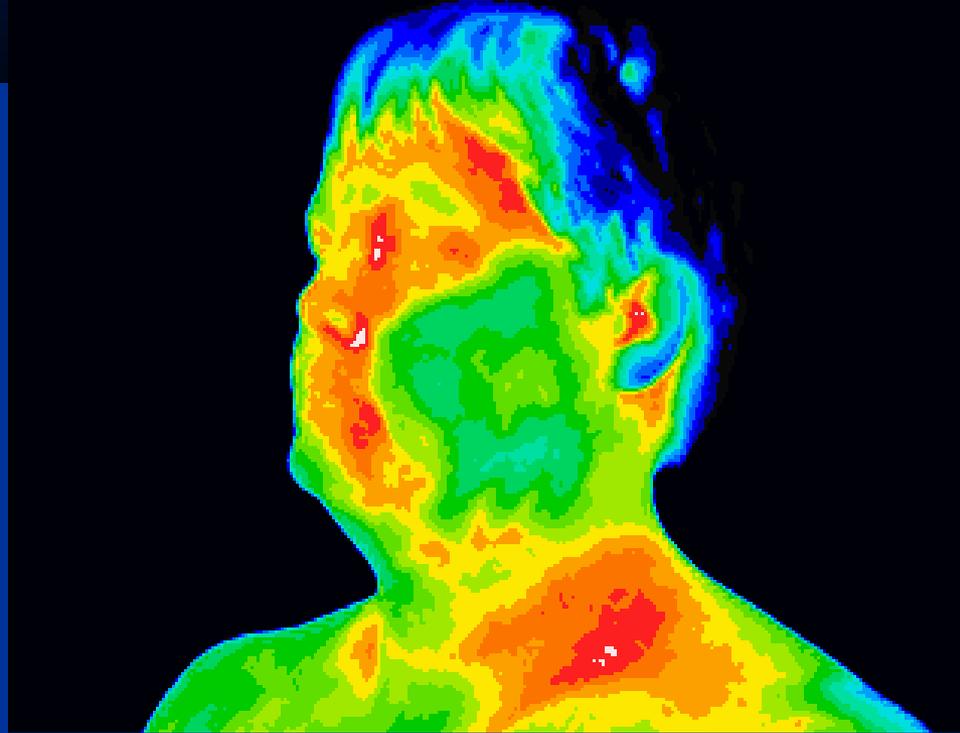
Thermal imaging is an adjunctive test, which contributes to the process of differential diagnosis, and is not independently diagnostic of pathology.

Standard Head and Neck views in Thermography

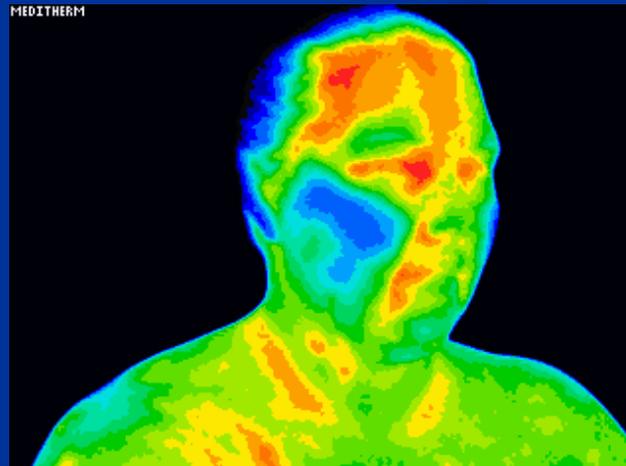
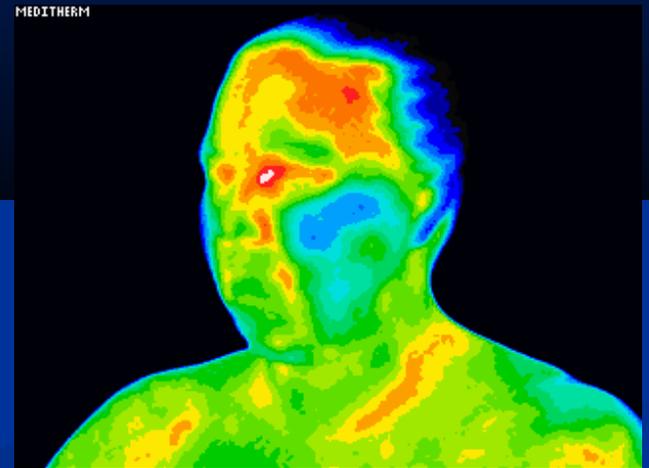
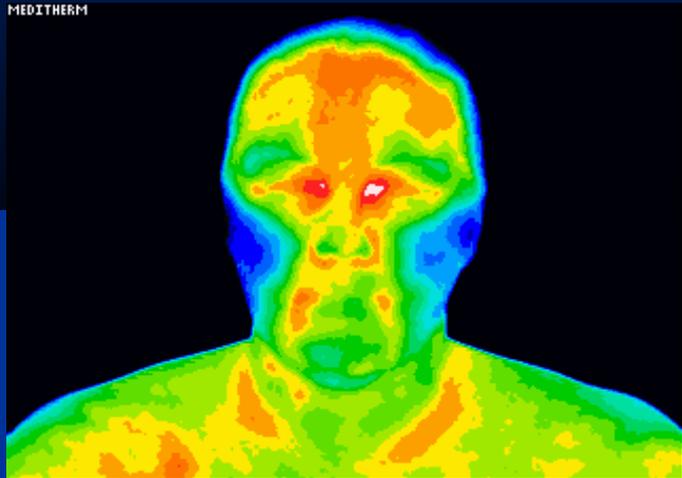


Thermographic image of small dental abscess that was eventually seen on xray

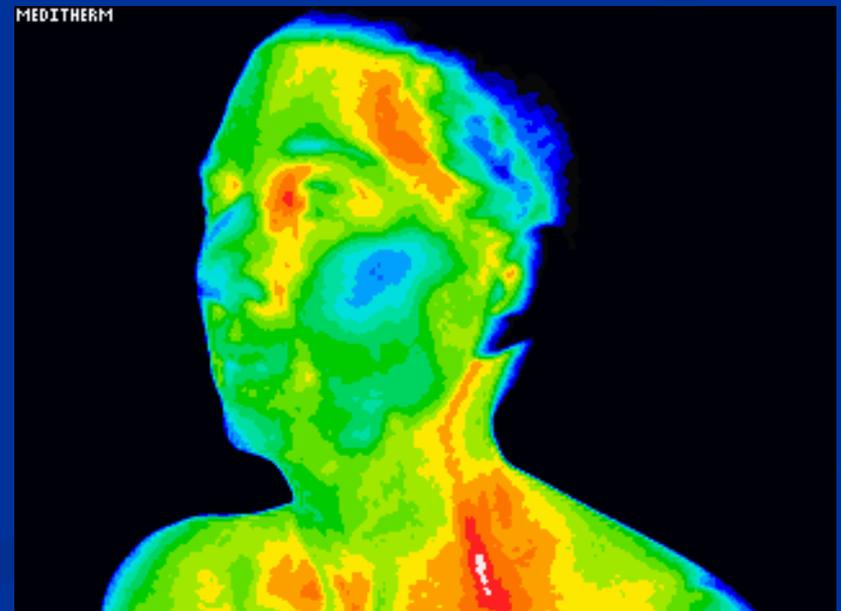
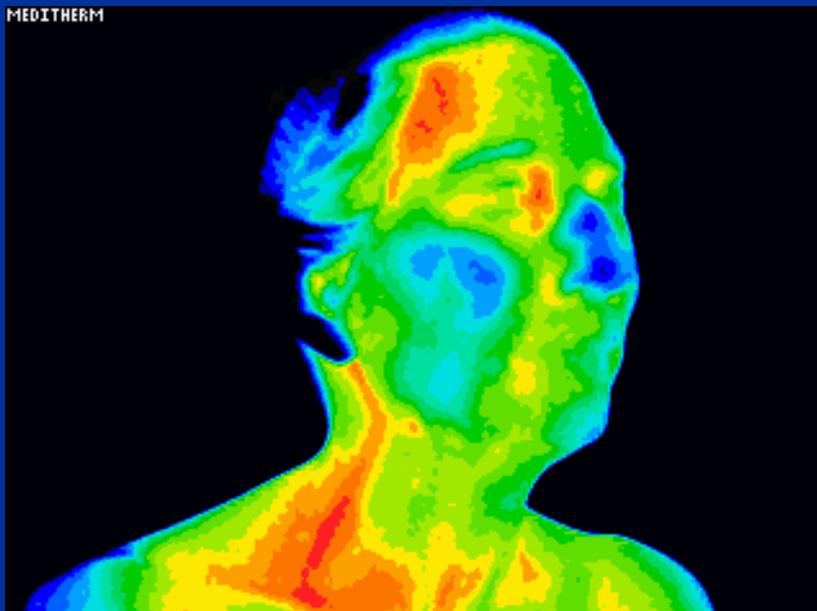
MEDITHERM



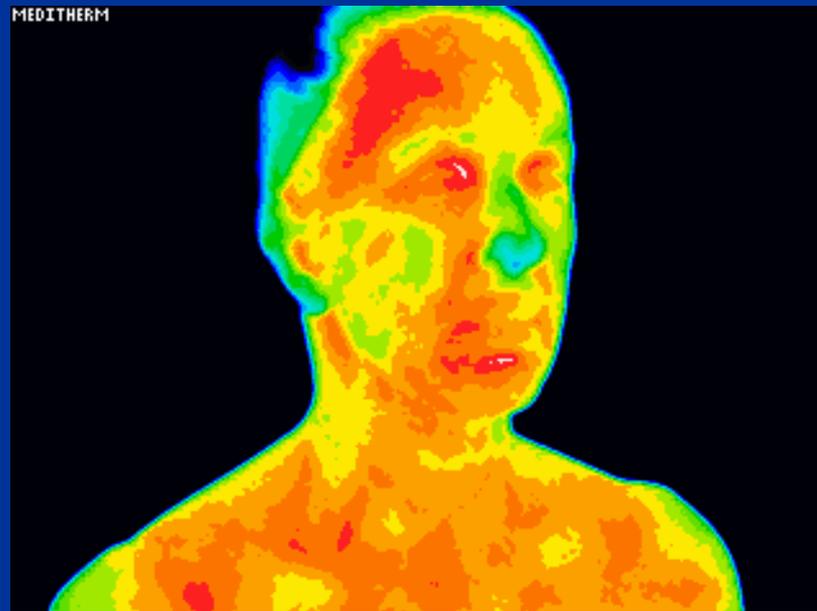
Dental issues showing drainage into the digastric lymph nodes



“There is a focus of hyperthermia over the anterior and posterior maxillae; and the anterior mandible (Rt.>Lt.) with bilateral submandibular-cervical lymphatic drainage patterns, which is consistent with dental/periodontal pathology and/or dental procedures. “



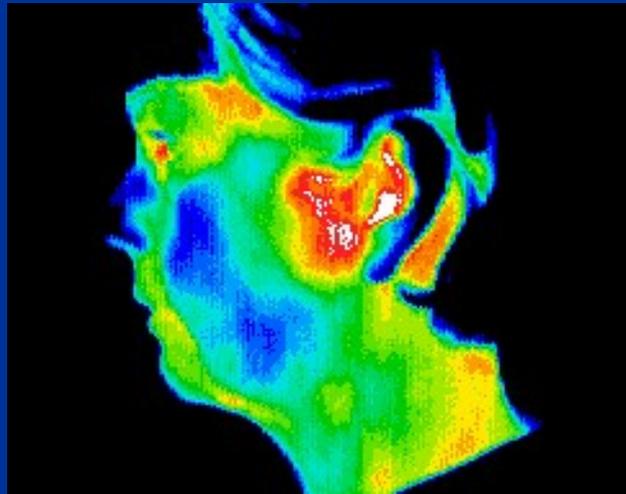
Dental abscess and two inflamed areas of root canals



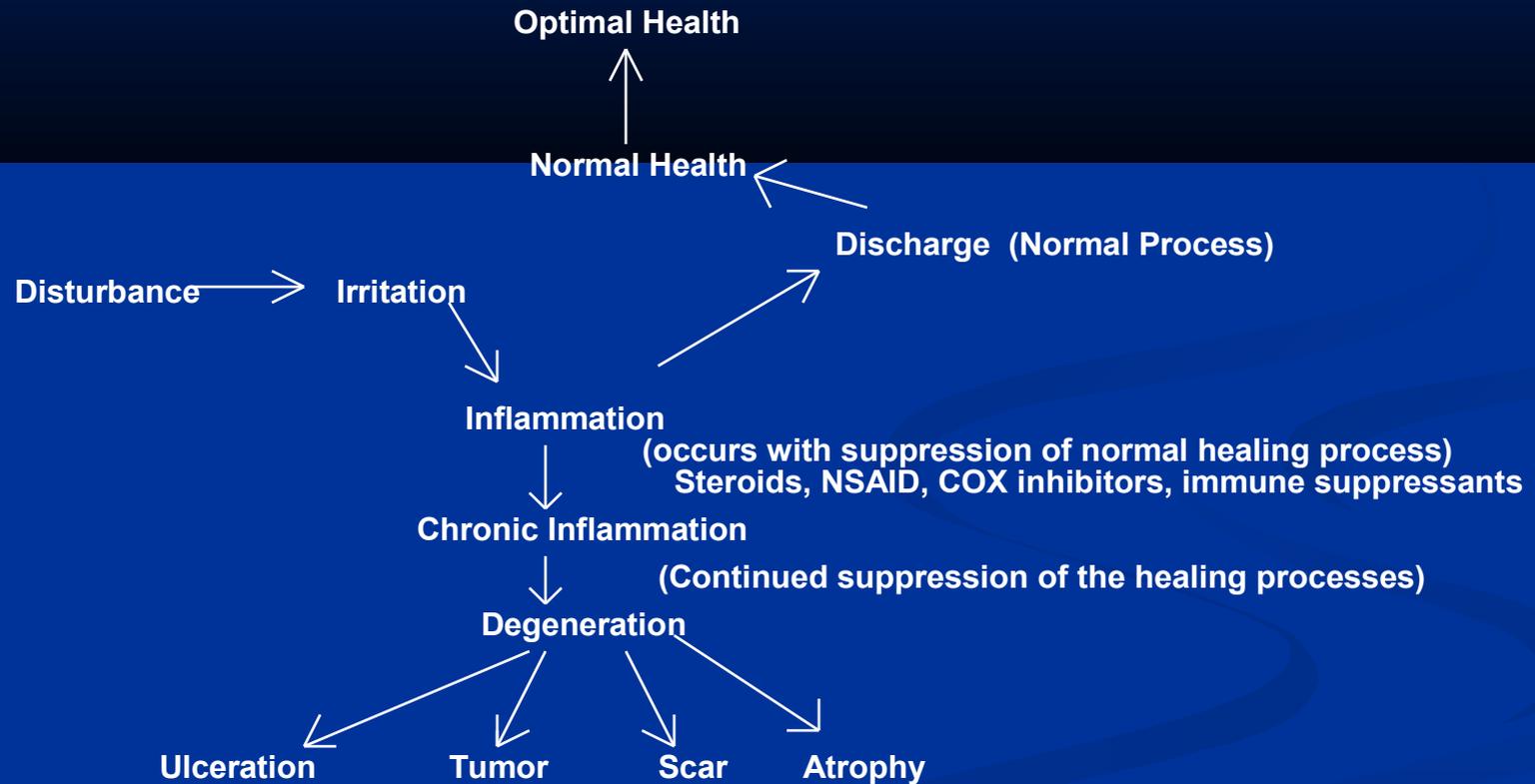
How Dental Infections affect Whole Body

“Given the patient’s history of root canal surgery, consider the following: The majority of root canal pockets often remain chronically infected and may actually evolve into osteomyelitic-necrosis. Dental issues, if left untreated, can possibly develop into smoldering subclinical infections creating a milieu for chronic inflammation, leading to a number of chronic diseases, i.e., cardiovascular, fibromyalgia, CFS, as well as, breast health problems; thyroid gland issues; and gastrointestinal challenges. Clinical correlation is advised; and if there are significant findings, would recommend dental management. Consultation with a biological dentist is a consideration.”

TMD



The Inflammatory Pathway



DIET

Grain-Free

AVOID

Grains	Dairy	Corn	Grain-fed Meat
Potatoes	Peanuts	Sugar	Soy
Artificial Sweeteners			
Processed Foods			

Allimax, AlliUltra and Allimed

Pharmaceutical grade, stabilized garlic (allicin)

Questions?