



## **Instructions Following Implant Surgery**

You should not be surprised if slight bleeding occurs off and on for the first few days. Often swelling occurs in the area that was treated. You should also expect to have moderate pain requiring medication and the area may be sore for the first two weeks. If there is severe swelling, or constant bleeding, please notify us.

### **Instructions**

- Begin your pain medication before the anesthesia wears off by taking the prescription drug in the dose recommended on the label. After this first dose of prescription drug, you may only need Advil every 6 hours to be comfortable. If necessary, however, resume taking the prescription drug.
- To minimize swelling, use an ice pack on the treated area, 10 minutes on and then 15 minutes off, as soon as possible after the surgery (for the first day). Even better would be to hold some ice water in your mouth in that area, then gently let it run out of your mouth.
- Do not eat or drink anything HOT for the first 24 hours (warm foods are OK). For the first 4 weeks do not use an oral irrigator (i.e. Water Pik) or Peroxide. Do not eat popcorn.
- Use warm salt water rinse or the prescribed Chlorhexidine at least two times daily, starting on the second day. This will soothe the area, minimize bacteria, and promote healing.
- Be sure to take all of your prescription of antibiotics until gone.

### **Additional Instructions**

- If you are taking prescription drugs, you may feel weak or dizzy for a day. Realizing this, avoid doing anything that requires your attention or control (like driving). NEVER take any alcohol when using prescription pain medication.
- The sutures may become loose as they dissolve; you may remove the loose pieces by snipping them off with a pair of small scissors.
- Do not eat any hard or crunchy foods on the treated side, but try to maintain a normal diet.
- If you have a flipper or denture over your implant, you should not feel pressure in that area. If so, contact your general dentist for necessary adjustments.

**If you have any questions, please call us any time of day or night.**

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