

GENERAL INFORMATION FOLLOWING ORAL SURGERY

Following oral surgery a number of conditions may occur , all part of which may be considered routine.

SWELLING in the operated area, cheek, and under the jaw is expected and may become quite large and last for some time. Some discoloration of the skin may occur with varying frequency.

PAIN is to be expected and medication should control this. The duration varies and other teeth may be sensitive.

A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF BLEEDING is expected and may last for 24 hours.

AN ELEVATION OF TEMPERATURE is not unusual for 24 to 48 hours.

DRYNESS OR CRACKING of the lips and at the corners of the mouth may occur.

Application of a cream or ointment may help.

INSTRUCTIONS FOLLOWING ORAL SURGERY

To control and minimize the effects of oral surgery, follow these instructions carefully.

BITE ON THE GAUZE PAD firmly for 45 minutes following surgery, maintaining constant pressure. Do not become disturbed if gauze becomes saturated with reddened saliva. If heavy bleeding reoccurs, reapply steady biting pressure for 1 hour with fresh gauze, obtainable at any drugstore. Sit upright and remain inactive.

REST is important after any surgery. Elevating the head help and sitting in an easy chair is excellent. Use extra pillows when sleeping at night.

FOR PAIN use medication as prescribed. When discomfort becomes mild change to aspirin or tylenol about every four hours until no longer needed. Contact our office if pain medication is ineffective.

USE ALL OTHER PRESCRIPTIONS as directed. Report any ill effects from drugs to the office. The Surgeon General of the U.S. Health Service strongly advises against the use of alcoholic beverages while taking medications.

DO NOT DRIVE OR OPERATE MACHINERY for at least 24 hours following a general anesthetic.

DO NOT TAKE MEDICATION ON A EMPTY STOMACH

ICE BAG should be applied to operated side of the face (30 minutes on and 30 minutes off), alternating sides if surgery was done on both sides, for the first 12 hours, except when sleeping. After 24 hours a warm moist compress may be used in the same manner until the swelling subsides.

DIET: Avoid the use of hot foods or fluids the day of the surgery. Eat soft foods such as eggs, liquid preparations, cereals, mashed potatoes. If surgery was confined to one side of the mouth, you may continue with normal diet on the unoperated side.

DO NOT USE A MOUTH RINSE for the first 24 hours. This may dislodge the clot and start bleeding.

IN CASE OF ANY UNUSUAL PROBLEM, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE.