

Post-Operative Instructions

Extractions

At the completion of your extraction appointment, you will be given a package of sterile gauze to take home. One half hour after leaving our office, remove the gauze packing from the surgical site and place a new one. One half hour after that, remove the gauze. If there is a very little blood to non present, you do not need to replace it. If you are still not bleeding, continue using the gauze as needed. Placement of gauze past the first day is not generally needed and you should contact us if that is the case. A little bleeding for a few days is not unusual. When you wake in the morning you may have a bit of clotted blood in your mouth, this is normal. When you go home, do not lay down flat, but rather keep your head elevated and keep it elevated the first night. Use additional pillows in a bed to aid in the clotting process.

For the first 24 hours do not:

1. Smoke
2. Consume alcohol
3. Perform strenuous activity
4. Drink through a straw
5. Spit
6. Take aspirin or other anti-coagulants

If bleeding persists past the first day without diminishing, call the office. Swelling can be decreased with the use of cold packs. Use of a cold pack for 15 minutes on and 15 minutes off is ideal.

Some bruising is normal. Pain that begins to intensify around the third day of the surgery can signal a dry socket. You will need to contact the office. This indicates the loss of the clot. We can place a medicament into the socket. This is not mandatory; it just makes it feel better.

Stitches

We would like to remove your stitches at one week.

As always, if you have any questions please call us at (248) 626-9915.