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ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY
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AFTER PLACEMENT OF DENTAL IMPLANTS

Bleeding

Remove the gauze sponges that may have been placed in your mouth 30 minutes after surgery unless told otherwise. Place fresh ones every 30 minutes as needed. If no gauze sponges have been placed, it is not necessary to pack the area if there is no bleeding.

Swelling

Upon reaching home, place an ice pack to the face in the area of the implant surgery for 20 minutes on and 20 minutes off for the remainder of the day of surgery. Nibble on crushed ice or hold ice water in your mouth over the area of surgery. Do this frequently. Keeping the area of surgery as cold as possible will help reduce the amount of swelling which you may have.

Diet

It is extremely important to avoid chewing on the area of implant surgery for two weeks. You may eat a liquid or soft diet immediately following surgery being careful to avoid the area of surgery. Drink plenty of fluids such as orange or tomato juice, ginger ale, water, tea, etc. Do not use a straw the day of surgery. Be sure to drink at least 4 to 8 glasses of liquid daily.

Pain

For any pain after surgery, for **adults** we suggest starting with 600mg of Ibuprofen (Advil®, Motrin®) *plus* 500mg of Acetaminophen (Tylenol® extra strength) taken together every 4–6 hours as needed. For **adults weighing under 100 lbs.**, the dosage of Tylenol® extra strength should be adjusted to 5mg/lb.--For example: A 90-lb. adult should take no more than 450mg of Tylenol® (5mg x 90-lbs.=450mg) every 4-6 hours, and less depending on weight. For Advil®, the suggested dose under 100 lbs. is 200-400mg every 4-6 hours. For **children under the age of 12**, we suggest starting with Children's Ibuprofen (Children's Advil®, Children's Motrin®) *plus* Children's Acetaminophen (Children's Tylenol®) taken as directed on the packaging every 4-6 hours as needed. This combination is all that may be necessary to relieve pain. If Dr. Moriconi prescribes a narcotic pain medicine, it is important to follow the instructions on the label for taking it, and generally not on an empty stomach. If antibiotics are prescribed, it is very important to finish the entire course of treatment even if pain and/or swelling are gone.

Antibiotics

Be sure to take the prescribed antibiotics as directed to help prevent infection. It is very important to finish the **entire** course of treatment even if pain and/or swelling are gone.

Oral Hygiene

No brushing, rinsing, or spitting the day of surgery. The mouth can gently be rinsed the day following surgery with a solution of warm salt water. Avoid brushing the area of surgery for the first week. You may, however, brush your remaining teeth.

Activity

Keep physical activities to a minimum immediately following surgery.

Wearing your Prosthesis

If you wear dentures, you may place your full or partial denture into your mouth only after your first post-operative visit unless instructed otherwise. It is extremely important not to place pressure over the area of implant surgery with a partial or full denture.

Sutures/Follow-up

Dr. Moriconi will want to see you back in the office seven to ten days following surgery to remove any sutures you may have and to check on healing.

It is our desire that your recovery be as smooth and pleasant as possible. Following these instructions will assist you. If you have questions about progress, call the office at 215-884-8263. If you need to speak with a doctor and the office is closed, follow the instructions that will be provided on the recording. If you have an emergency and the office is closed, call 911 or proceed to the nearest hospital emergency room.