

Patient Instructions Following Oral Surgery Procedures

To reduce the likelihood of complications and minimize the chance of an infection following your oral surgery, please follow the instructions listed below as carefully as possible:

For the first 24 hours:

1. **DO NOT EAT ON THE SIDES WHERE THE EXTRACTIONS WERE DONE.** Food could get pushed into the sockets causing bleeding or an infection.
2. **DO NOT DRINK THE FOLLOWING:**
 - A) Carbonated beverages
 - B) Fruit juices (OJ, grapefruit juice, etc.)
 - C) Alcoholic beverages
3. **DO NOT DRINK FROM A STRAW.** This will cause bleeding.
4. **DO NOT SPIT.** Spitting can cause more bleeding.
5. **DO NOT SMOKE.** Smoking can cause dry sockets.

After 24 hours the chances of complications are greatly reduced. You may begin eating anything that you feel you can handle. In addition:

1. Begin rinsing your mouth with salt water as often as you can. **This is very important!**
2. Drink plenty of liquids and maintain good fluid intake.
3. Oozing may continue. Don't be worried as this is expected and could continue for several days.
4. Pain may be severe for several days, and may vary from case to case. Your doctor will advise you as to how long you might expect to be uncomfortable. Take pain medications as directed.
5. Take all prescribed medications as directed.
6. Continue brushing teeth, but try to stay away from surgical area.
7. Try to avoid doing anything that causes more pain.
8. Return for your follow up appointment if directed to do so.

Profuse bleeding is a complication that is of serious concern. If you begin bleeding profusely at any time, or are worried about any unusual condition, call at once!

After 24 to 48 hours, any discomfort from the procedure should begin to subside. Remember that it is not uncommon to experience some sensitivity for several weeks.

Should you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to call. We are available 24 hours a day should you have an emergency or concern. Call the office at 821-5566 and the answering machine will give you the telephone number of the doctor on call. Other telephone numbers, should you need them, are as follows:

Dr. Fuszner's 24 hour voice-mail pager: 672-0000

Dr. Fuszner's home telephone number: 966-5079