

COMPREHENSIVE FAMILY DENTISTRY

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HOME CARE INSTRUCTIONS FOR IMPLANT PATIENTS

BLEEDING

A gauze pack should be placed on the wound (implant site) to limit bleeding while clotting takes place. The gauze pack should be left in place for half an hour after you leave the office. DO NOT CHEW ON THIS GAUZE. MAINTAIN MILD PRESSURE.

If bleeding or oozing continues after the gauze is removed, follow this procedure:

1. Fold a piece of clean gauze into a pad thick enough to bite on. Moisten the pad with cold water and place directly on the bleeding area.
2. Apply mild pressure to the area by closing the teeth together gently. Maintain this pressure for about half an hour, repeat if necessary. REMEMBER PRESSURE WILL STOP BLEEDING.
3. Do not suck on the implant site: sucking may stimulate bleeding.
4. Do not forcefully spit. Allow the saliva to run out of your mouth, then wipe it with a tissue.
5. If you run out of gauze you may use a cold, wet tea bag.
6. If heavy bleeding occurs or continues, call the office.
7. Do not go to bed with gauze in your mouth.
8. Do not eat or drink with gauze in your mouth.

ACTIVITY

Local Anesthesia Patients:

1. Maintain the head and upper body elevated with pillows.
2. DO NOT SMOKE. Smoking will delay the healing and increase the pain.
3. Limit strenuous activity for 48-72 hours. This will reduce bleeding and help the wound heal.
4. Do not drink from a straw for 24 hours. This creates suction in the mouth, which could recommence the bleeding.
5. Start brushing your teeth the day following surgery. Do not brush the surgical site.
6. If you have persistent pain or a very foul taste in your mouth, call the office.
7. Avoid the operation of a motor vehicle and dangerous machinery while on pain medications.

General Anesthesia or Sedation Patients:

Follow instructions 1-7 above, as well as the following:

1. The patient should rest under responsible adult supervision for the remainder of the day and night.
2. Do not operate a motor vehicle or dangerous machinery for a minimum of 18 hours post anesthesia.
3. Do not climb stairs unaccompanied for 24 hours following anesthesia.