



IMPLANT POST OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Extreme care should be exercised in **avoiding placing any biting pressure on the surgical site(s) during the several month healing interval. DO NOT CHEW ON YOUR NEW IMPLANT.** Chewing on your implant before your surgeon has determined it is okay to do so may lead to implant failure.

SWELLING

It is normal to swell after implant placement. Swelling is greatest 2-3 days after surgery, and may remain for an additional 3 days before it starts to resolve.

- Immediately after surgery, place ice packs over the area.
- Leave the pack on for 20 minutes and then off for 20 minutes for the rest of the day.
- After the first 24 hours, it is not necessary to continue cold packs.

FOR THE FIRST 48 HOURS AFTER IMPLANT PLACEMENT:

- **DO NOT** vigorously rinse your mouth, as this may rinse away the blood clot.
- **DO NOT** use drinking straws.
- **DO NOT** smoke for the first 2 week after surgery.
- **DO NOT** disturb the implant site with tongue or fingers.

RINSING

For all patients, use warm salt water (1/2 teaspoon salt dissolved in 8 ounces of warm water) **after every meal for 1 week**. Rinse for 30 seconds with 15ml of Peridex 2 times a day (morning and night after meals). Use Peridex **only** during the first week of healing.

BRUSHING: If an implant extends through the gums, the metal **must** be kept clean. Use a cotton-tipped applicator or a soft-bristle toothbrush to gently clean the implant and the surrounding tooth surfaces, taking care to avoid disturbing the sutures.

POST-OPERATIVE DISCOMFORT

After implant placement, it is normal to experience some amount of discomfort when the anesthesia wears off. Taking prescribed medication as directed should control discomfort, but may not eliminate it.

ANTIBIOTICS

After surgical procedures, there is always a chance that infection might develop. Although uncommon, a prescription may be written for you. **Take all prescribed antibiotics until finished.**

TEMPORARY APPLIANCES

A temporary appliance (stay plate, flipper, essix retainer) is sometimes provided by your general dentist to fill in the missing space. This appliance should **NOT** put pressure on the tissue. Pressure from the appliance can cause failure of your implant. It may need to be adjust by your general dentist if you feel pressure from the appliance.

Please note: Feel free to contact us with general questions. Questions regarding prescriptions or pain medications can **ONLY** be processed during business hours. Monday-Thursday: 8am-5pm Friday: 8am-1pm

(925) 934-5565