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Diplomate American Board of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

BONE GRAFT POSTOPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

- DO NOT DRINK FROM A STRAW OR SPIT FOR 24 HRS, since this will promote bleeding.
- Some oozing of blood is normal from the area of surgery and may persist for 24-48 hours.
- Drink large volumes of fluids to keep yourself hydrated and swallow normally.
- Start using the prescribed antibiotic and pain medication soon after the surgery. Some discomfort is normal.
- Do not drive or drink alcohol if you take the prescribed medications.
- If nausea, vomiting rash or hives occurs, discontinue use of all medications and contact the office.
- Do not rinse your mouth or brush your teeth until the following morning.
- Brush your teeth gently avoiding the area of surgery.
- Rinse with Peridex 2 times a day for 1 week.
- Swelling after surgery is normal and can last up to 6 days. Applying ice pack over the area of surgery for 20 minutes on and 20 minutes off for the first day can help minimalize the discomfort.
- You may experience some mild bruising in the area of the surgery or at the IV site. This is normal and will disappear in 7 to 14 days.
- After surgery you may experience jaw muscle stiffness and limited mouth opening. This is normal and should resolve in 5 to 10 days. Movements like talking and chewing will help.
- Stitches are usually dissolvable and will fall

- out on their own within 7 to 10 days.
- Do not apply any pressure with your finger or tongue to the grafted area.
- Do not pull your lip back to look at the sutures as this may cause damage.
- If you are taking birth control and were prescribed antibiotics, please inform the doctor or staff as it may interfere with its effectiveness.

DIET

- 1st Day: Mostly Cold Liquid Diet (e.g.: Ice Cream, Milk Shakes, Jell-O, Pudding)
- 2nd & 3rd Days: Semisolid Foods (e.g.: Pasta, Noodles, Boneless Chicken, Fish)
- Soft foods for 10 days and then return to normal diet.

AVOID

- Hard and crunchy foods for 2 weeks (e.g.: Nuts, Chips, Pretzels, Seeds, Popcorn, Hard Candy)
- All mouthwashes for 1 weeks except the prescription mouth rinse Peridex.

CALL THE OFFICE 301-924-2155, IF YOU EXPERIENCE:

- Excessive discomfort not controlled by the pain medication.
- Bleeding that is not controlled by the gauze or tea bag.
- Increased swelling or fever above 101 degrees after the fourth day.
- Any questions related to the surgery.