

### **Information regarding surgery in the mouth**

It is natural to be concerned after you have surgery in the mouth. Fortunately it is exceedingly rare to have problems after this treatment and we are happy to provide you any care and information that you require.

The early phase of healing occurs between 2 to 4 weeks. In this time a blood clot forms to stop bleeding and the soft tissues of your mouth begin to seal the area of surgery.

Healing in this phase is improved in patients who have:

- Excellent oral hygiene
- Use mouthwash as advised
- Do not disturb the blood clot
- Have stitches – if required
- Have antibiotics – if required

Healing in this phase is reduced in patients who:

- Have some medical conditions
- Smoke

In this early phase it is common to have tenderness, swelling, bruising and oozing from the area. The stitches that we place may be removed in a separate appointment or fall out, depending on the type used.

The middle phase of healing occurs from 4 weeks to several months depending on the type of surgery that you have required. During this time the soft tissues complete healing.

The late phase of healing occurs after several months and is only relevant if you have had surgery involving the underlying bone.

### **Advice after surgery in your mouth**

I recommend the following after surgery:

To rest for the remainder of the day. I do not recommend that you exercise or undertake vigorous activity for the remainder of the day or the following day. You may wish to take the following day(s) off work or work from home depending on the complexity of the procedure.

Place a cold pack or a pack of frozen vegetables covered in a cloth on the area. This reduces bleeding, soreness and swelling.

Do not rinse your mouth for the remainder of the day. Gentle rinsing of your mouth 4 -6 times a day, from the following day is suitable. This can be with the mouthrinse that we provide you or a warm salt water mouthwash.

You can brush your other teeth carefully but do not brush within 4 teeth of the area of implant placement.

If oozing occurs use the gauze provided or a handkerchief. Dip this in cold water, wring it out and bite firmly for 30 minutes. You will also need to place a cold pack in that area as outlined above.

Eat cool soft food for the remainder of the day, and if possible the following day e.g. ice cream, pasta, eggs *et cetera*

Any stitches may be irritating but please try not to pull them. Occasionally they may come out before the re-assessment appointment but please do not be concerned about this.

To minimise discomfort I recommend that you take the following medication(s):

- Paracetamol .....mg, four times a day for ..... days
- Ibuprofen .....mg, four times a day for ..... days
- Codeine is also useful for some patients.
- Do NOT take Aspirin
- Do NOT take any medications to which you may have an allergy



To prevent infection of the area you may or may not be required to take the following medication(s):

- Amoxicillin .....mg, three times a day for ..... days
- Metronidazole .....mg, three times a day for ..... days
- Erythromycin .....mg, four times a day for ..... days
- Do NOT drink alcohol with this medication as it will make you very ill. This includes foods with alcohol content.
- Please note that antibiotics may stop the contraceptive pill working.

**Additional information**

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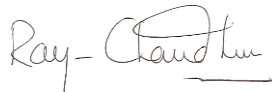
**When to seek further care**

Further telephone advice is occasionally required but further treatment is rarely indicated.

If you have the following problems please contact the surgery:

Severe pain that disturbs your sleep  
Severe bleeding that does not stop after biting on a gauze/handkerchief and applying a cold pack  
Pus discharging from the area

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries on 07957391314 or [aj@advancedrestorativecare.com](mailto:aj@advancedrestorativecare.com)



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