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Post-Operative Instructions

A dry socket is a concern after a permanent tooth extraction. For prevention, bite down on gauze for one hour. Change once during the hour, if needed.

Also, for 24-48 hours:

- No smoking
- No spitting
- No rinsing
- No drinking through a straw
- Nothing hot to eat or drink
- Minimal exertion-no exercise or heavy activity (take it easy)
- No aspirin based medication
- Soft diet for the next five days-nothing crunchy, hard, or spicy

If you should experience excessive pain that can't be controlled with Tylenol, Motrin, or by prescribed pain medicine given by dentist or uncontrollable bleeding, please call the office, or after hours call 362-7878 for the phone number of the doctor who is on call.

POTENTIAL COMPLICATIONS

1. **PARESTHESIA/ANESTHESIA**

You may remain temporarily or, in extremely rare instances, permanently numb in the lower jaw after an extraction or severe oral surgery.

2. **SINUS EXPOSURE**

During an extraction of an upper tooth the sinus may be exposed. If this should occur we will give you instructions for homecare.

3. **INFECTION**

Antibiotics may be prescribed after oral surgery as a preventative or to control existing infection.

4. **SWELLING**

Swelling may occur after oral surgery and may remain for 3 to 5 days. If this should occur, the doctor recommends ice packs for 3 to 4 hours (20 minutes on –20 minutes off) to help control swelling

5. **PAIN**

Advil, Tylenol or Motrin is recommended after oral surgery. Doctor may prescribe pain medication if needed.

6. **HEMORRHAGING**

Minimal bleeding usually occurs after oral surgery. Instructions will follow after treatment in accordance with patient's need.

Please be informed. These complications are quite rare. Contact the office if you should have further questions.