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ORAL-FACIAL
&
IMPLANT SURGERY

POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

Following Oral Surgery

Patient: _____ Date of Surgery: _____

TODAY

- Bite on gauze with **CONSTANT**, firm pressure for 1 hour after surgery. Slight oozing afterward is normal.
- If active bleeding occurs, place new gauze over the area and maintain steady pressure for another hour.
- Once bleeding is under control, drink liquids or eat very soft foods today. Do **NOT** use straws for 24 hours.
- Rest for the remainder of the day. Avoid smoking for at least 24 hours (preferably 5 days).

BEGINNING TOMORROW morning / afternoon / evening

- Rinse gently with warm salt water two times daily ($\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt per glass of water) for about 2 weeks.
- Solid foods may be eaten as tolerated.
- Resume normal tooth brushing as soon as possible, avoiding the surgical site initially.

SWELLING / BRUISING

- Facial swelling is normal. Apply ice packs during the first 24 hours.
- Maximum swelling usually occurs on the third day after surgery.
- Bruising or skin discoloration may occur and will gradually fade. Moist heat may help reduce this.

MEDICATIONS

- Take medications exactly as prescribed.
- If you experience problems with your medication or have concerns, contact the office.

IF YOU RECEIVED IV ANESTHESIA

- Do **NOT** drive or operate machinery for at least 12 hours.
- A bruise or soreness may occur at the IV site on the arm. This is normal and will gradually resolve, and moist heat may help

Special Instructions: _____