

TOMASETTI AND MCLAIN
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

POST OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR PATIENTS
UNDERGOING AN IMPLANT PLACEMENT OR IMPLANT
UNCOVERING

DAY OF SURGERY:

To help stop the bleeding, place a folded, moist piece of gauze over the surgical area(s). Apply firm but gentle biting pressure on the gauze. Try to leave in place for 45 minutes before changing it. When the bleeding has stopped you may remove the gauze. If bleeding persists for more than three or four hours, try biting on a tea bag moistened with cold water.

Swelling is often a side effect of surgery and can be uncomfortable. This can be minimized by using an ice pack wrapped in a towel and applied to the cheek adjacent to the surgical area. This should be applied twenty minutes on and twenty minutes off. You will benefit from this for the first 24 hours after surgery.

Begin eating soft foods that require little chewing. If implants were only placed on one side of the mouth, use the other side for chewing. As chewing becomes more comfortable for you, gradually return to your normal diet.

Avoid drinking from straws, chewing sticky foods, vigorous swishing and spitting, using water picks or electric toothbrushes for the first week.

DO NOT SMOKE for at least four weeks following surgery. *We recommend that you STOP SMOKING COMPLETELY.*

ONE DAY AFTER SURGERY:

Begin warm salt-water rinses three to four times a day for one week. Mix ½ teaspoon salt in 8 ounces of warm water. Hold a mouthful over the implant site for 30 seconds then allow the water to fall from the mouth. Repeat until the 8 ounces are gone. It is important to rinse with the salt-water first thing in the morning and at night. You may also use any mouthwash that you normally use.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to call the office 303-798-4553

Our hours are Monday through Thursday 8am-5pm and Friday 8am-2pm
We have an after hours answering service available to contact the doctor on call for emergencies.