

Post Operative Instructions

Instructions Following Extractions

1. Have your child bite on the gauze for the next 15 to 20 minutes after leaving the office. Please change the gauze when it becomes wet. You should be provided with extra gauze, if not please let the staff know prior to leaving the office. In order to change the gauze simply fold the gauze into fourths and place over the extraction area and have your child bite with pressure. You may have to assist your child by holding the gauze if the child is too young to hold it alone.
2. Today's diet should consist of cool liquids and soft foods; no crunchy foods (chips, nuts, etc). Do **NOT** drink liquids through a straw. The sucking action may disturb the clotting and cause bleeding to reoccur.
3. Generally, not much discomfort is experienced following the extraction of a primary tooth. However, if your child complains of discomfort, Motrin or Advil should be adequate to reduce the pain. Please follow the recommended dosage and instructions on the label.
4. If your child had a tooth removed from the lower arch, please monitor your child for the next 2 hours. Many children will attempt to play with a numb lip or tongue and this could cause trauma to the area. If this does occur the area will appear red or white, ulcerated, and swollen. Pain medication should be taken as needed, and a cold compress can be applied to reduce the swelling. The area will heal within a week.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to call us at 360-604-9000 with any questions.

Local Anesthetic Caution

Your child may have received a local anesthetic, possibly for the first time. In addition to blocking sensation from the teeth, the anesthetic “numbs” the lips, cheeks, and tongue in the area of treatment. This may be a puzzling or curious sensation for a young child and thus care must be taken to keep your child from biting, chewing, or sucking on his/her lips or tongue after the dental procedure. If care is not taken your child may experience minor tissue damage. While this is not serious, it may be uncomfortable and unsightly. Please watch your child closely for approximately 2 hours and avoid eating until the numbing feeling has worn off.

Please call Lisa at 360-604-9000 to set up a 1 week post operative follow-up appointment.