



MURPHY ORAL & MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY

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POST OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS AFTER DENTAL IMPANT &/OR BONE GRAFT:

NUMBNESS: You will be numb for 2-4 hours after the procedure. Be careful not to bite your lip or tongue. Avoid drinking hot liquids until the numbness wears off, as you do not want to burn your mouth

STITCHES: Stitches were placed to close the wound. Depending on the type of stitch used it will either dissolve early in 5-7 days or later in 4-5 weeks. If they become bothersome, they can be removed at follow-up appointments.

BRUSHING/RINSING: It's ok to brush your teeth and keep your mouth clean; this will help the healing process. Avoid the area where bone graft was placed for one week. Be gentle in that area for the next 3-6 months, as that is how long it takes for the bone graft to heal.

LONG TERM CARE: Long term care of the dental implant is necessary, care for it like you would care for a tooth with brushing, flossing and regular dental check-ups.

IMPLANT FAILURES: Dental Implants can have "early failure" which is usually due to infections, pain or failure of the bone to heal around the implant. If this occurs the implant is usually removed. "Late failure" is after the implant has healed and a dental crown has already been placed. This can occur because of local infections, pain, or bone loss caused by stress from the new dental crown. The implant may need to be removed if fixing the dental crown does not fix the situation.

BONE GRAFT: Use of other bone materials, (processed bone or synthetic bone-like materials or membranes) can be placed to increase the success rate of the dental implant by building up the foundation of the bone for long term stability. Occasionally the membrane (if used to hold the graft in place) or the bone graft material may extrude out of the surgical site and need further treatment.

Dental Implant Stages:

STAGE 1: following placement of a dental implant, it usually takes 4-6 months for the bone to heal around the implant.

STAGE 2: Once the bone has healed around the implant (4-6 months) it must be uncovered by removing the gum tissue at the top of the implant and a healing abutment is placed to contour the gum tissue in preparation for the dental crown

STAGE 3: Placement of the Dental Crown by your restoring dentist.

We desire that your recovery be as smooth and pleasant as possible. Following these instructions will assist you, but if you have questions about your progress, please call our office. Calling during office hours will afford a faster response to your question or concern. Thank you for allowing the team to assist in your health care needs.

PLEASE CALL WITH CONCERNS 970-420-6848