

MARK S. EHRHARDT DDS
Surgical Post Operative Instructions

EXTRACTIONS:

1. Bite on gauze pad for 30-40 minutes or as long as necessary to control bleeding.
2. If bleeding persists, wet a tea bag, and bite on it to control bleeding.
3. Ice bags or ice wrapped in a towel applied to the surgical sight for the first 20-30 minutes after getting home will help control swelling.
4. Take given or prescribed medication exactly as directed.
5. The doctor should remove any sutures in two to five days.
6. Do not rinse mouth vigorously for 24 hours, gentle rinsing with warm salt water will then aid healing.
7. Do not smoke for 6-8 hours.
8. Brush remaining teeth normally, drink lots of liquids (soups, malts, juices, and water) to keep up your strength and resistance.

COMPLICATIONS:

Some oozing of blood may continue for 24-48 hours and mix with the saliva. Unless bleeding is severe or continuous it is nothing to be concerned about. Swelling often follows extractions and is part of the body's normal healing process. Should any medication cause an unusual reaction (dizziness, rash, etc.) or fail to control your comfort, or should you have any problems which you are concerned, please call this office at (303-659-1825) or Dr. Ehrhardt's cell phone at (303-870-6693). If for some reason you are unable to reach us, a Dental Intern is on duty 24 hours daily at the Denver General Hospital.

DRY SOCKETS

If toothache like pain begins after second or third day or persists for 3-4 days following surgery, the blood clot has probably been lost and secondary infections set in. Call the office so that proper treatment can be instituted.

FRENECTOMY, APICOECOTOMY, BIOPSY, WOUND CLOSING

Above instructions apply where applicable. The lip should not be pulled back to look at surgical site as the tissue may be very thin and such action could pull sutures loose.