



## What to Expect Following Your Dental Implant Procedure

### POST SURGICAL INSTRUCTIONS

#### General Instructions

Placement of dental implants usually does not create a great deal of pain. General postoperative instructions apply, with the exception of rinsing.

For the first day DO NOT rinse your mouth. Remember DO NOT rinse with warm salt water or use a water pik device.

Do not pull back on the lips or cheeks to look at the area as this can disturb the surgical site and increase complications. Refrain from applying pressure with your tongue or fingers to the grafted area to allow for proper healing. Do not use tobacco products or drink alcohol as these may delay healing.

#### Following Bone Grafting

You may find small granules in and around the grafting site for the first several days. This is normal.

#### Medications

Take all medications the doctor has prescribed for you according to directions

#### Oral Hygiene

The doctor has given you a prescription rinse containing chlorhexadine, an antibacterial medicine to assist in the healing and keeping the site healthy. Make sure that you get rid of any toothpaste residue prior to rinsing and then DO NOT eat or drink for 30 minutes after rinsing. This will maximize the potency of the medication.

#### Follow Up

You may have sutures that need to be removed. Be sure to keep the follow-up appointment for the suture removal and post-operative check-up. If the sutures become loose or irritating prior to the appointment, please call the office. For the first day after your procedure, rest as much as possible. Do not pull back on the lips or cheeks to look at the area as this can disturb the surgical site and increase complications. Your tooth may be loose for a few days – this is normal.

#### Contact Us

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call us at (206) 343-8929. If you're calling after hours, our answering system will provide a message for how to reach the on-call doctor.