



Expectations Following Oral Surgery, Wisdom Teeth Removals, Multiple Extractions or Implant Placement

These surgical procedures like any other surgical procedure can have a number of Unpleasant post-operative symptoms. The following list of symptoms may occur, but not always, and in varying degrees of severity, depending on the specific procedure and degree of difficulty involved in the operation. Also included are suggestions that will help you to minimise the symptoms that you may encounter.

Swelling: Your face may swell and be sore and you may have difficulty opening your mouth. The swelling subsides over a week but can be relieved by using an ice pack at ½ hourly intervals for 2 days post-operatively. Limited movement of the jaw will improve over a week. Heat can be applied after 2 days to free up movement.

Pain: The pain you experience will vary depending on the number of factors, including underlying pain thresholds. Pain can be controlled with tablets such as Nurofen, Nurofen Plus, Panadeine or Mersyndol every 3 to 4 hours. Nurofen is also helpful in minimising swelling. Mersyndol can make you drowsy and is good for night time use. If greater pain relief is required, Nurofen and Panadeine taken at the same time are very effective. If further pain relief is required, the Dentist should be contacted.

Bleeding: Minor bleeding can occur for 24 to 48 hours after surgery. This can be controlled by biting on a rolled up gauze pack, over the surgery site. If bleeding continues, contact your dentist. It is also common to get bruising inside the mouth and on the face and neck but this will subside after a week.

Infection: Bone, Gum and or Facial infection may occur post-operatively. Mouth rinsing with Difflam-C will help prevent this. If infection occurs, your Dentist can prescribe Antibiotics.

Numbness & Altered Taste: The possibility of altered sensation (numbness, burning, itchiness and altered taste) of the lips, teeth, chin, cheek or tongue may be present after the operation. The exact duration may not be determinable and may (in rare cases) be irreversible.





Dryness and Cracking: To lips and the corners of the mouth may occur and can be relieved by applying a lanolin type, or paw-paw ointment to these areas post-operatively. Cleaning of the remaining teeth is essential. If necessary, use a child's toothbrush.

Injury or Fractures: Difficult Extractions can result in trauma to neighbouring teeth or bone. Remedial treatment will be provided.

Sinus: Penetration of roots into the sinus can occur in the removal of upper teeth or upper jaw implant placement. A permanent hole between the sinus and the mouth can occur. Retrieval of broken roots is essential and may need to be carried out at a subsequent appointment.

Delayed Healing: Delayed and painful healing of sockets can occur. If your condition deteriorates after 3 – 5 days, see your Dentist immediately for prompt attention.

Allergy: Reaction to drugs, medication or anaesthetics can occur. If you feel or sense an adverse reaction, stop taking the medication and contact your Dentist.

These expectations are to assist patients in making an informed consent prior to a procedure. If you have any queries on any of the above or wish to discuss them in greater detail do not hesitate to discuss them with your Dentist prior to your operation.

If any problems occur or you are concerned about your progress after treatment please contact Charlestown Dental Surgery on 49436884.

