

8 c Post operative care of your mouth

Post operative information for **TOOTH EXTRACTION**

1. If you have had an extraction, there may be some pain and swelling, limited mouth opening, sore throat and numbness of the lips after the event for a short period.
2. If you have had general anaesthesia you must not operate machinery, drive, have sole charge of children or sign legal documents for 48 hours. You will feel unwell for several days and it is important that you take it easy for 3-4 days after the operation.

3. PROBLEMS THAT YOU MAY ENCOUNTER

PAIN _____ You will be given painkillers, take them when needed (please take note of the maximum number of painkillers allowed per 24 hours). Should your pain get worse please contact us. If the pain starts 2-3 days after the operation and continues to get worse, you may have an infection and we will need to see you promptly.

SWELLING _____ Expect some swelling, however, if it is severe please contact us.

BLEEDING _____ If the bleeding or oozing starts, wrap a handkerchief into a "sausage" the size of a finger and place the end firmly over the socket and bite hard for 10-15 minutes and rest. Repeat this but if you get continued bleeding, contact us. Bleeding may occur soon after the extraction; it is important that you avoid food and drink for at least 6 hours after the operation.

SUTURES _____ These are mainly dissolving sutures and last for 3-4 days. Do not worry about swallowing these; you may notice them disappear.

CLEANING _____ The day after the operation it is important to clean your teeth as best as you can with a toothbrush. Corsodyl mouth wash is best, you can buy this from any chemist which is cheaper than a prescription.

Hot salt water mouth wash: 1 cup of hot water and 1-2 teaspoons of salt dissolved, take a swig and hold over the socket for a minute, repeat and finish the cup. Do this as many times a day as possible.

TABLETS You may be given antibiotics and painkillers. If these tablets make you sick you must stop taking them, otherwise, complete the course as instructed.

OTHER PROBLEMS Many people suffer sensitivity of the teeth next to the sockets, clean well and the problem will resolve itself with time.

Bad breath may be associated with the healing sockets, this may last a week.

REVIEW APPOINTMENTS All patients seen will be given a review appointment if necessary. Please attend promptly and phone us if you have any problems. Overall, we hope your experience was a good one. Emergencies out of office hours, you may contact us on. [Link to contact page](#)