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BROOKFIELD FAMILY DENTISTRY, LLC

*Post-Operative Instructions following Implant Placement*

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*Please read and closely follow these post-operative instructions from your doctor. Pay special attention to any verbal directions provided while in the office. The following points should act simply as a guide. If any questions or concerns occur following your treatment call the office immediately.*

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1. **BLEEDING:** Even with minimally invasive surgical procedure a certain amount of bleeding is to be expected after any surgery of the mouth. Continued bleeding may occur for 24-72 hours. Leave the gauze pack, dental prosthetic, temporary or permanent crown in place taking care not to disturb or cause excessing agitation at the surgical site for several hours or until bedtime. Do not suck on the implant side or disturb it with your tongue. In the rare instance bleeding is excessive, wipe away any large blood clots, and then close down firmly on a provided wet clean gauze over the surgical site for 30 to 45 minutes. Repeat the procedure. If this doesn't stop the bleeding, call the office during business hours or on call doctor if after business hours.
2. **ANESTHETICS:** The duration a patient will experience numbness varies on the type and amount needed for the dental procedure. While your mouth is numb, take particular care to avoid biting your cheek, lip, numbness has subsided. The feeling and sensation should return within a few hours, if it does not, call the office during business hours or on call doctor if after business hours.
3. **PAIN:** Slight to moderate pain can be expected after placement of a dental implant. To minimize the pain and control infection, take your prescribed medications as directed and two Tylenol within one hour after leaving the office. Repeat the medication as instructed. If you have any difficulties with the medication call the office and an appropriate pain management protocol will be discussed. You can expect to be drowsy from the medicine and you should not ingest alcohol, operate machinery, or drive an automobile while taking the medicine.
4. **SWELLING & DISCOLORATION:** Swelling is usually the largest 2 days after surgery and will last from 4-6 days. This may be a large amount, and in some cases extend to other parts of your face or neck as the swelling passes. To minimize swelling and discomfort, apply an ice pack or cold compress the face over the involved are for 15 minutes on and 5 minutes off for the 1<sup>st</sup> day. For the next few days afterward use heat; a heating pad, or hot water bottle. Some discoloration of the skin or bruising could also be expected following surgery.
4. **TEMPERATURE:** A slight increase in temperature may occur. Check the temperature for the first 10 days, several times a day. It may be over 100 degrees for a week. If it is above normal (98.6 degrees), take 2 Tylenol tablets every 4 hours. If you have prolonged or sever pain, swelling bleeding, fever, nausea or vomiting call the office during business hours or on call doctor if after business hours.
5. **DIET:** You are encouraged to drink plenty of fluids and eat soft nutritional foods. The day following surgery you can eat any foods which can be chewed and successfully swallowed. You may not be able to return to a regular diet for approximately one week. Avoid hot liquids and alcoholic beverages for the first 2 days.

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6. **SUTURES:** If sutures have been places- the hold tissues and hasten healing. After a few days they may cause a “tight” feeling. This is normal and will be relieved when the sutures are removed or dissolved.
7. **RINSING:** You should not rinse or use mouthwash until the day following the surgery. Initially rinse delicately with warm salt water (1/2 teaspoonful or salt in 8 ounces of warm water) every 1-2 hours and after meals. Avoid spitting or drinking from a straw on surgery day.
8. **ACTIVITY:** A semi- reclining position and rest for several hours following surgery are recommended. Avoid strenuous activity the first day or two following surgery. Sleeping with your head elevated the night of the surgery and cover your pillow with a towel if needed.
9. **WEAKNESS:** Any surgery and/or pain medication can cause this; also this may be due to change in diet.
10. **NUMBNESS:** You may experience numbness of the lower lip and/or the tongue following and surgical procedure involving the lower jaw; also in the area where any incisions are made. If so, do not be alarmed as this is temporary and may only last for several days to several weeks. Extended periods of numbness can be related to the level of involvement of the surgical procedure.
11. **NOSE BLEEDS:** Stuffy sinuses and nose bleeds may result due to the placement of the implants or location of the teeth to the sinuses or any procedure in the sinus area. Normally this heals without complications.
12. **LIPS:** Keep the lips lubricated for the first few days after surgery with Vaseline. Your lips may be sore, particularly the corners, and this will prevent them from drying out.
5. **NAUSEA:** If nauseated and it persists, please call the office during business hours or on call doctor if after business hours.
6. **REACTION:** If you become nauseated or develop a rash or itching, please discontinue your medication and call the office during business hours or on call doctor if after business hours.
7. **SORE THROAT:** This may occur secondary to surgery and is to be expected. Chloraseptic lozenges or oral spray will soothe this effect and remedy it, usually in a few days. If this persists over one week, call the office during business hours or on call doctor if after business hours.
13. **SORE TEETH:** This may result following surgery and is to be expected. Also sensitivity may occur with the teeth near the implant placement site or a sensation that your bite may be off.
14. **DRESSING:** To be changed as directed or by doctor.
15. **POST OPERATIVE HYGIENE:** Use mouthwash, water-pic, and specialized implant prosthetic cleaning brush as directed by Dr. Morelli. It is imperative to the success of the dental implants that you return for regularly scheduled hygiene visits.

Special Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_  
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***NO SMOKING IS ALLOWED FOR 2-3 DAYS AFTER SURGERY.***