

Implant

Did you just get an implant with us? Below, you can learn about what to expect once you get home from our office. Read over this page, follow the instructions, and everything should be great. If you have any questions, be sure to contact us right away.

- If you had sutures placed, around two weeks after the surgery, the sutures will be removed.
- Usually you are able to continue to wear your present partial, flipper, or essix. Sometimes it is necessary to leave it in the night of the surgery. It is important to keep the appliance as clean as possible during the healing process.
- NO SMOKING. Smoking is to be avoided for the time being since it lowers the body's ability to heal and increases the chance for implant failure.
- Avoid alcohol for 30 hours, commercial mouth rinses, and very hot fluids/foods for 30 hours after surgery.
- Avoid a Waterpik.
- Gentle rinsing of the mouth can start a few days after the surgery. Frequent gentle rinsing with lukewarm salt water will aid the healing process and maintain cleanliness. Add 1 tsp of salt to 1 cup of water.
- If an antibiotic has been prescribed for you today, it is very important that the prescription is filled and taken as directed. Please complete the antibiotic until all are used. Should you develop hives, itching, skin rash, or difficult breathing, stop taking the medication and call the doctor immediately or proceed to your nearest hospital emergency room.
 - **Caution: If you are prescribed antibiotics, please be aware that they may decrease the effectiveness of birth control.**
- A certain amount of pain must be expected after all types of surgery.
 - If you CAN take Ibuprofen (NSAID's), take 400-800mg + Tylenol 500-1000mg together every 6 hours around the clock for 3 days.
 - If you CANNOT take Ibuprofen (NSAID's), just take Tylenol 500-1000 mg every 6 hours around the clock for 3 days.
 - Take Oxycodone 5mg every 4-6 hours as needed with the Ibuprofen and Tylenol
 - If given Norco for breakthrough pain, take 500mg Tylenol dose
 - ****DO NOT exceed 3200 mg Ibuprofen or 4000mg Tylenol in a 24hr period ****
 - **Caution: If you are pregnant, consult with your obstetrician before taking any pain medication.**
- Some swelling and possible minimal bruising is to be expected and not unusual. In most instances, swelling can be prevented by applying an ice pack for 10 minutes and remove for 10 minutes. Repeat as needed. If after three days you still have a large amount of swelling, please call the office for advisement or for an appointment.
- A small amount of bleeding following surgery should not alarm you. If the bleeding is excessive or continuous, please call the office for advisement or an appointment.
- Do not spit, gargle, or suck on a straw for 24 hours following surgery. This tends to loosen the suture and blood clots.
- Following surgery, it is best to restrict your diet to fluids or soft foods for the first day. A normal diet may then be resumed for the following day but you will want to avoid chewing on the implant site until the tissue is completely healed. Soft foods such as Jell-O, pudding, mashed potatoes, scrambled eggs, ice cream or lukewarm soup are suggested. If you are having difficulty chewing, try putting food in a blender or diet supplements such as Carnation Instant Breakfast or Ensure.