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Post-Operative Instructions for Dental Implants

- 1. Patients who have undergone IV anesthesia should be carefully attended by a responsible adult for at least 4-6 hours after leaving the office. The patient may NOT drive or operate heavy equipment for 24 hours after IV anesthesia.
- 2. <u>PAIN:</u> A certain amount of discomfort is to be expected as with any surgery. Discomfort after implant placement is usually well controlled with over the counter pain medications: ibuprofen, Tylenol, aspirin. Try to eat something before taking these medications, unless otherwise directed by a doctor.
- 3. <u>BLEEDING</u>: Bleeding is normal after any surgery and should not alarm you unless it is excessive or persistent.
- 4. <u>TOBACCO</u>: Please DO NOT use any tobacco products for at least 72 hours after surgery. Nicotine adversely affects normal healing and may lead to infection of the surgical site or premature failure of the implant.
- 5. <u>DIET:</u> For your safety, please avoid eating until after the anesthesia wears off, to avoid biting your lip, cheek, or tongue. After feeling returns, you may eat regular food as tolerated. Avoid chewing directly on the implant site.
- 6. <u>ORAL HYGIENE:</u> You should brush your teeth the same evening of surgery to keep the area clean. Be sure to brush the area of surgery gently. Avoid using mouth wash/rinse as it will cause pain and may inhibit healing.
- 7. Call the office regarding any complications, such as high fever, discomfort not controlled by the recommended pain medication, prolonged bleeding, or excessive swelling.