



General Dentistry

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“Following removal of a tooth....”

1. Upon leaving the office, bite softly on the gauze pad for 30 minutes & then remove. If bleeding continues, reapply.
2. For 48 hours:
DO NOT SMOKE
DO NOT SPIT
DO NOT RINSE WITH WATER OR MOUTHWASH
DO NOT DRINK ALCOHOL
All of the above may cause a dry socket.
3. If swelling should occur, ice can be used for the first 6 hours...5–10 minutes on the area, then 5–10 minutes off.
4. Mild pain may be experienced. You may take 800 mg of Ibuprofen (E.g., Motrin, Advil) every 6–8 hours. A stronger prescription for stronger pain medication is available & given as doctor sees a need.
5. Eating & drinking is important; when eating avoid the surgical area; avoid any foods with small pieces like nuts, seeds, popcorn, etc.
6. You should still brush & floss the other areas of your mouth. Brush the teeth near the surgical site after 24 hours and more vigorous brushing & flossing after 48 hours.
7. In case of extreme pain, uncontrollable bleeding, or any unusual disturbances, call the office immediately. 336-272-6235 or mobile 336-687-3572.

What is a dry socket? A dry socket is a condition in which the blood clot that forms in the extraction site becomes detached from the walls of the socket leaving the bare bone exposed to saliva & air. Inflammation may occur & is persistent & painful.