

Post-Operative Instructions: Zygomatic Implants

Pain

- If you are medically able, take ibuprofen (Advil®, Motrin®) and Acetaminophen (Tylenol®). Start with 600mg ibuprofen and alternate with 500mg acetaminophen every three hours so that each medication is taken on its own 6-hour schedule.
- If you are given stronger pain medication, please take it as directed in addition to the ibuprofen and acetaminophen.
- Writing down the medication taken, dose, and time assists in limiting confusion.
- Start taking the first ibuprofen dose as soon as possible after the procedure.

Bleeding

- Do not swish, spit, or use straws for 24 hours following your procedure.
- Bite down with firm pressure on the gauze that is placed over the surgical site. Change every 45 minutes as needed. As the gauze turns pink, it can be removed. Call our office if bleeding does not stop/is filling your mouth rapidly with blood after several gauze changes.
- Remove gauze when eating/drinking and replace as needed if bleeding still occurs at the surgical site.
- Do not sleep with gauze in your mouth.
- Bloody nose can occur after the procedure for the first two weeks.

Swelling and Bruising

- Swelling can be expected to increase during the first 48 hours after the procedure and peaks in 48-72 hours with a gradual reduction over a week. Swelling may include around the cheeks/eyes.
- Apply ice to the surgical site for the first 48 hours if needed, 20 minutes on and 20 minutes off. Be sure to place a towel or barrier between the skin and the ice pack so the skin is not burned.
- Elevating the head with pillows when sleeping is helpful during the first 2-3 days.
- Bruising of the eyes can appear for approximately 10 days-2 weeks.

Sinus Precautions

- Limit nose blowing for 3 weeks. If you must sneeze, do so with your mouth open. This will equalize the pressure between the mouth and the nose and reduce unintended airflow through the surgical site.

Diet

- Soft food, non-chew diet for 3 months following the procedure. Do not eat hard, crunchy, chewy foods during the healing process.

Oral Hygiene

- Resume normal brushing and oral hygiene the day after surgery.
- Begin gentle rinsing 24 hours after the procedure after meals with regular tap water or salt water. If you were given a medicated mouth rinse, use this morning and evening for one week starting 24 hours after the procedure.
- Avoid smoking as it limits and delays healing.

Antibiotics

- If you were given an antibiotic, take it as prescribed until completed.

Activity

- Limit strenuous activity following the procedure and gradually increase as you feel more comfortable.