



Post-Operative Instructions

The following information is to help you in the care of your child after routine dental treatment. The checked areas indicate treatment that was rendered on your child.

_ Local Anesthetic: Local anesthetic is the localized numbing of an area of the mouth using topical anesthetic, septocaine or lidocaine. The effects of local anesthesia last one to three hours post dental procedure. Children may have the urge to suck their cheek or bite their tongue because it feels so strange. Please tell your child not to do so, for they may injure themselves by either causing an ulcer or a swelling in the area, which can take up to a week to heal. If this does occur, applying cold compresses can help alleviate swelling. In addition, children's Tylenol or Motrin can be used to decrease your child's discomfort.

_ Nitrous Oxide: Nitrous oxide was used to calm and relax your child during their dental procedure. There are no prolonged side effects of nitrous oxide. Normal activity can be resumed post dental treatment.

_ Stainless Steel Crowns: After stainless steel crowns are placed, the gum tissue may appear to be red, inflamed and possibly bleeding. This is very normal! This usually heals within a week's time. If your child is uncomfortable during this healing process, children's Tylenol or Motrin can be used to alleviate their pain. In addition crowns are cemented on with strong tooth cement. Sticky foods can pull these crowns off, and we request that your child does not eat sticky candy such as fruit snacks, gummy bears, or Swedish fish, etc.

_ Dental Fillings: After the placement of either white or silver fillings, teeth may often be sensitive to hot, cold or pressure for a short period of time. This discomfort usually subsides within a few weeks.

_ Extractions: After an extraction of a tooth, your child will have cotton gauze placed to control normal bleeding in the area of the extraction. The gum tissue can take about 1 week to heal at the site of the extraction.