Tooth Extraction

After an extraction, your condition will vary depending on the location, severity and duration of the problem. To help the extraction site heal as quickly and comfortably as possible, there are some things you should and should not do.

- **Do** bite on the gauze you are given for 30 minutes to aid in the healing process. This prevents saliva from dissolving the tiny protective blood clot your body needs, thus helping to prevent an uncomfortable "dry socket". If bleeding continues after 30 minutes, replace with a new piece of gauze.
- **Do** take Advil as directed and apply a cold compress on the cheek if you are experiencing any discomfort. Only take prescription pain medication if you need more relief.
- **Do** keep well hydrated.
- **Do** take antibiotics as directed if prescribed by the doctor.
- **Do not** do anything that might displace the blood clot for the next 24 hours. This includes drinking through a straw, drinking carbonated or alcoholic beverages, smoking, vigorous rinsing and excessive nose blowing.
- **Do not** participate in strenuous physical activities for the next 24 hours.
- **Do not** brush the teeth next to the extraction site for the rest of the day.
- **Do not** eat hot, spicy or solid foods for the rest of the day.

Your comfort is our top priority. If you have discomfort after the extraction lasting longer than two days, call us. You may have a dry socket. A dressing can be placed in the extraction site to help protect the site and relieve discomfort.

QUESTIONS:
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