What to Expect After Oral Surgery

Oral surgical procedures (for example, the removal of impacted wisdom teeth) may be quite involved and difficult. The following conditions may occur, all of which are considered normal.

- The area operated on will usually swell.
- The swollen area may become somewhat enlarged.
- Stiffness of the facial muscles may cause difficulty in opening the mouth.
- A sore throat may develop.
- Numbness may develop around the corners of the mouth on the side from which the tooth was removed. This is called "anesthesia" and is most often a temporary condition which will usually correct itself. It may last for a period of a few days to a few weeks.
- Your other teeth may ache temporarily. This is called "sympathetic pain" and is a temporary condition.
- If the corners of the mouth are stretched, they may dry and crack. Your lips should be kept moist with a cream or ointment such as Polysporin®.
- There will be an opening or "hole" where the tooth was removed. After 24 hours, this area should be rinsed after meals with warm salt water (1/2 teaspoon table salt in glass of warm water). Dr. Delmore may also have you use a prescription mouth rinse. With time, the surgical opening will fill in with new tissue.
- Black and blue discoloration may occur on the outside of the face near the area of surgery. This occurrence is not unusual and will resolve within several days.
- Sutures (stitches) may be used to close the surgical wound. These are generally dissolvable. If not dissolvable, they are usually removed 7 days from the day of surgery, unless otherwise stated. Dissolvable sutures will loosen and then fall out over the next several days after surgery. Please call if you have any questions or concerns about your sutures.
- There may be a slight elevation of temperature for 24 to 48 hours. If temperature continues, notify this office.

**NOTE: IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS, PLEASE CONTACT THE
OFFICE AT (916) 929-6789****

** Calls after hours will be received by the answering service and will be promptly returned.