

Anesthesia

Today your child received local anesthesia for necessary dental treatment.

Generally this will last about 1.5 hours after you leave the office, however sometimes it can last longer. Please monitor your child, discouraging them from biting, chewing, scratching or pulling on their cheek or lip. They may have something to drink but preferably nothing to eat until the numbness is gone. If they are hungry and need to have something to eat, we suggest giving your child a smoothie or something of a smooth consistency like yogurt, mashed potatoes, etc. Once the area is no longer numb your child can continue a normal diet.



Post-operative Instructions for Extractions

Today your child had a tooth extracted.

Reasons for extraction of teeth include:

- Large cavities that result in an infection
- Interference with normal growth and development

Once a tooth is extracted, post operative care is as follows:

- Your child will be biting on gauze so that pressure can be applied to the socket. Please instruct your child not to chew on the gauze, but to keep their teeth closed. Remove the gauze after 10 minutes. Oozing may occur; this is normal.
- Give the appropriate over the counter medication, such as Children's Motrin or Tylenol, as soon as possible to avoid any discomfort when your child is no longer numb.

--- Dr. Paynich may recommend a space maintainer to ensure normal growth and development in the presence of early tooth loss. ---

Space Maintainer Instructions

Today your child has received a space maintainer.

Post operative instructions include:

- Brush and floss the area normally. Make sure that you help your child floss between the wire on the appliance and the gum to keep the tissue healthy. Super floss cleans around space maintainers very easily.
- Do not allow your child to eat any sticky foods such as caramel, taffy, tootsie rolls, sticky chewing gum, etc. because this will pull the appliance loose. Sugar-free chewing gum is okay.
- If the appliance becomes loose or comes out, save it and call the office so that we can re-cement it.

Post-operative Instructions for SSC's

Today your child received a Stainless Steel Crown (SSC). These crowns are not only strong and long lasting restorations, but are also cost effective because of their low rate of complications or failure.

Some of the reasons children receive SSCs include:

- Severe decay too large to be restored with a filling or in need of a pulpotomy
- Teeth having developmental defects
- Young children with high cavity rates

Once a Stainless Steel Crown is placed, post operative care is as follows:

- Give the appropriate over the counter pain medication, such as Children's Motrin or Tylenol, as soon as possible to avoid any discomfort when your child is no longer numb.
- Brush and floss area normally
- No sticky or chewy foods such as caramel, taffy, tootsie rolls, sticky chewing gum, etc. Sugar-free chewing gum is okay.

Your child may experience some pressure where the crown was placed and notice a whitish or bluish area on the gum. This is normal. The gum tissue around the crown may be sore. Keeping this area clean will aid in the healing of this tissue.

--- The crown will exfoliate with the baby tooth naturally and the permanent tooth will erupt unaffected by the treatment. ---