

## **Surgical Information Sheet** (Crown Extension)

### **1. What is informed consent?**

It is very important for you to understand your problem and the necessary procedures that you will undergo in treating your condition. We want you to be aware of all the advantages and disadvantages of each procedure as well as alternatives. This document in no way obligates you to any treatment. It is meant solely to inform. We hope it will answer your questions or generate new ones which we will be glad to discuss with you.

### **2. Why do I need surgery?**

Your restorative dentist has recommended this procedure prior to restoration of your tooth. It may have been recommended to provide enough tooth structure to hold the restoration, or it may be to improve the esthetics of the final result. Without this procedure your dentist can not restore your tooth.

### **3. Will the surgery hurt?**

You will be given local anesthetics (e.g.; Novocaine). You can expect to be comfortable during the procedure. Reactions to these anesthetics are rare, but please let us know if you have ever had a reaction.

Prescriptions for oral medications will be given for discomfort following the procedure. Most patients are comfortable with mild pain medications. A few patients will have moderate to severe discomfort that requires stronger medication. Antibiotics are sometimes prescribed. If you are a female on oral contraceptives, they may be less effective at preventing pregnancy. You should consider additional protection at this time.

Patients who smoke or have a habit of grinding or clenching their teeth tend to have greater discomfort.

### **4. Are there risks?**

Periodontal surgery is extremely safe and complications are very rare. However, with all surgery there are possible problems that include:

- Bleeding that may be difficult to control.
- Infection that may require further treatment.
- Nerve damage can occur during the procedure, resulting in partial or permanent numbness.
- Tooth sensitivity to hot and cold.
- Tooth mobility either temporary or permanent.
- Discomfort.

With the routine use of local anesthetics there is the risk of an allergic response, swelling and facial discoloration associated with a hematoma (bruise) or possible temporary or permanent numbness to the lips, cheeks or tongue.

### **5. What will the first week be like?**

During the first 24 hours after surgery, you should take it easy and apply cold compresses to the outside of your face. It is important also to keep ice water or chipped ice inside your mouth. Keeping the surgical area cold the first day will help keep down swelling, pain and bleeding. Slight bleeding is common after surgery and you will be given instructions on how to manage it.

Don't be afraid to take the recommended medications. If you take them exactly as prescribed, your post-operative complications and discomfort will be minimal. Always call the doctors if you develop a rash or reaction to any medications. Never take over-the-counter pain medications with your prescriptions unless you check with the doctors.

Slight swelling and bruising are common. The medications should keep you comfortable, but if you are not, please be sure to contact the doctors. Most patient can return to their normal functions the day following the surgery, but a small percentage of patients may take a few days to feel able to return to regular activities.

You will return to our office about a week after the procedure to have the sutures removed. Several important healing visits will follow every 2-3 weeks.

## **6. How will my teeth look after surgery?**

You can expect teeth in the surgical area to have more root exposed, but generally these are your back teeth and your smile may not be affected. Since exposing more tooth is an intentional part of the procedure, this can be an esthetic problem if it involves the front part of your mouth or a tooth that shows. In most cases your dentist can correct this with restorative techniques.

The gum tissue of the adjacent teeth to the target tooth can be altered by the surgery. This is because the surgical incision usually extends one to two teeth on either side. The extent of the surgery dictates how much it will affect the adjacent teeth.

## **7. Follow up.**

In most cases, crown extension procedures are supportive for your restorative dentist. It is imperative to complete treatment at your dentist. This is especially true if the purpose of the procedure was to gain access to an area of decay. If you fail to follow up treatment in a timely manner you may lose your tooth.

## **8. Conclusion:**

I have been fully informed of the nature of periodontal therapy, the procedures to be utilized, the risks and benefits, the alternatives available and the necessity for follow-up and self care. I have had an opportunity to ask any questions I may have in connection with the treatment and to discuss my concerns with my periodontist. After thorough deliberation, I hereby consent to the performance of periodontal therapy as presented to me during consultation and in the treatment plan presentation. I also consent to the performance of such additional or alternative procedures as may be deemed necessary in the best judgment of my periodontist.

***I certify that I have read and fully understand this document.***

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Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

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Printed Name

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Printed Name of Witness