



ASSOCIATES IN ORAL & MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY

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POST OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR BIOPSIES OF THE MOUTH

Biopsies in and about the mouth generally heal quite rapidly without problems. However, some problems may arise and certain precautions should be taken.

1. The area operated on will usually swell. Maximal swelling will occur 36 - 48 hours after surgery and is a normal process. You may apply ice to the biopsy site to control swelling.
2. Sutures (stitches) may be used to close the surgical wound. The majority of sutures placed are designed to dissolve in 3 – 7 days although some may require removal. If a suture comes out prematurely this is generally not a problem.
3. Intermittent light bleeding at the biopsy site is normal. Light pressure with a gauze pack will usually control this.
4. You should avoid eating foods that may irritate the site (hot, spicy, acidic and coarse in texture) during healing.
5. Good oral hygiene is important for healing. Rinse your mouth with a dilute salt water solution.

**NOTE: IF YOU HAVE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH YOUR SURGERY PLEASE
CALL OUR OFFICE AT (520) 745- 6531 OR OUR ANSWERING SERVICE AT
(520) 570-1817**