

## ***BIOPSY POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS***

**\*\*\* PLEASE READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY \*\*\***

Sometimes the after-effects of oral surgery are quite minimal, so not all instructions will be applicable to each patient. Common sense will often dictate what you should do. However, when in doubt follow these guidelines or call our office for clarification. Our number is: **704-892-1198**

### **FIRST HOUR:**

- Bite down gently but firmly on the gauze packs that have been placed over the surgical areas for *at least 1 hour*, making sure they remain in place.
- Replace gauze if it becomes saturated due to bleeding.

### **SWELLING:**

- Swelling is sometimes associated with oral surgery.
- If necessary, minimize swelling by using a cold ice pack.

### **PAIN:**

- Unfortunately most oral surgery is accompanied by some degree of discomfort. You will sometimes have a prescription for pain medication.
- If needed, take the prescription before the local anesthetic wears off (within 4-6 hours).

### **MOUTH RINSES:**

- Keeping your mouth clean after surgery is essential. Use 1/4 teaspoon of salt dissolved in an 8 ounces glass of warm water and ***gently*** rinse with portions of the solution.

### **BRUSHING:**

- Begin your normal oral hygiene routine as soon as possible after surgery.
- Soreness and swelling may not permit vigorous brushing, but please make every effort to clean your teeth within the bounds of comfort.

### **HEALING:**

- The first two to three days after surgery are generally the most uncomfortable.
- If you don't experience continued improvement, please call our office.

**IT IS OUR DESIRE THAT YOUR RECOVERY BE AS SMOOTH AND PLEASANT AS POSSIBLE.**

A 24-hour answering service is available to contact the doctor on call after hours for **emergency situations only**.

***Normal Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 8-5 and Fridays 8-1***