

## EXTRACTIONS

The doctor has recommended that one or more of your teeth may be extracted based upon your symptoms, her examination of your mouth and x-rays, and your choice. There are two common types of extractions – simple and surgical. The difference between them are as follows:

1. **Simple extraction** – removing a tooth that has erupted or is causing discomfort without cutting into the gum or bone.
2. **Surgical extraction** – removing the tooth that has erupted or is causing discomfort through an incision in the gum tissue; bone may be removed to gain access to the tooth.

Due to the nature of this treatment our office would like you to be aware of common known risks and side effects of this procedure:

- You may experience pain, swelling or bleeding for a time after the extraction. Our office will give you instructions on how to manage these problems which, if they occur, should only last for a few days. Of course, should any of these problems be more severe or last longer than anticipated, call our office immediately.
- You may experience an infection following the extraction. We will advise you what to look for as a sign of infection. If any of these signs occur you should call our office and possibly schedule an appointment. Infections can involve aggressive bacteria and in some cases may require hospitalization to successfully treat.
- Teeth adjacent to the tooth to be extracted may be chipped or damaged during the extraction.
- Nerves which supply sensation to your mouth, chin, lips, tongue and gum tissue may run near the area of the extraction. After the extraction you may experience some alteration of normal nerve sensation (itching, burning, tingling) for a short or indefinite period of time. In some rare instances you may experience a total lack of sensation for a period of time which could be indefinite.
- For teeth in the upper arch there is a risk that following the extraction a hole or pathway may be present between the sinus and the oral cavity. This is because the roots of some of the upper teeth end just below the floor of the sinus and sometimes actually go through the sinus floor. If this occurs during your procedure, the doctor may need to make a small surgical repair of the hole and may place you on antibiotics and antihistamines to reduce the risk of sinus infection.
- You may experience a painful but harmless condition known as dry socket. This occurs when the protective blood clot in the socket where the tooth was removed is dislodged, exposing and irritating nerve endings. This may be caused by failing to closely follow the post-operative instructions we have given you. Although the condition is temporary and not harmful, it is painful. It can be readily treated and you should seek treatment from me. The doctor will place medicine in the socket that will soothe and protect it while alleviating the pain.
- Following the procedure the muscles of your jaw may be stiff and sore and it may be difficult to open your mouth wide for several days. This is a temporary condition and moist heat and analgesics will usually provide symptomatic relief. You may also experience some cracking or redness in the corners of your mouth.



Additional comments: \_\_\_\_\_

We invite your questions concerning the risks discussed and contained in this document. By signing below you acknowledge that you have read this document, understand the information presented and have had all your questions answered satisfactorily.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient (or Guardian) Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date