



Immediate Dentures

You have just had an immediate denture placed in your mouth. The following information will assist you to understand the sequence of events during the healing period:

- Teeth have been removed from your mouth. Stitches may have been placed to help the mouth heal. If so, they will dissolve by themselves.
- Dentures have been placed to replace your missing teeth and gum tissue. Today these dentures will feel large and bulky until your gums have healed. The dentures may cause your speech to be altered for a few days. This will disappear soon.
- Do not take the dentures out of your mouth today. We will do so at your next appointment. The new dentures serve as a bandage similar to a cast on a broken arm during the initial healing. After the initial denture removal and adjustment, you may remove the dentures as needed for cleaning.
- Some discomfort is usually present when teeth are removed and immediate dentures are placed. This discomfort is due to one or two reasons:
 1. The trauma of removing teeth. This will heal rapidly and go away by itself.
 2. The dentures may have a pressure spot. If so it will be observed and removed by us as soon as you tell us about the discomfort. It will not go away by itself.
- If you have been given antibiotics, take them as directed until they are gone.
- Use the pain medication until the discomfort has gone.
- Your dentures may have been relined with a soft material that makes them easier to wear and speeds healing. That material will be replaced at subsequent visits. It is not the final denture material. Be careful not to dislodge it when cleaning.
- After several months your denture will need to be relined or replaced to fit the healing and changing supporting tissues. At that time the denture will appear, fit and function as it was intended.
- Healing from tooth extractions continues for up to 18 months. Shrinkage of gums and bone is obvious during that time, but slows thereafter. You may require additional relines of your dentures in the future.
- Immediate dentures are a major change to your body. Don't worry if you are slow to adapt. Many others have been through this experience and everyone adapts to change at their own pace.

If you have any questions please call the MIT Dental Service at 617-253-1501

Implant Placement

This brief instruction sheet will help you to understand the procedure for placing dental implants.

- Please have a good night's rest before the day of implant placement, and eat a moderate breakfast or lunch.
- You will be given a local anesthetic to block sensation in the area selected for implant placement.
- A small incision will be made to obtain access to the location where the implant will be placed.
- Several different sizes of small drills will make precise, painless, preparations in which to place the implants
- You will be asked to bite on gauze sponges to stabilize the site and stop any slight blood flow.
- You will be given a prescription for:
 - a. A pain relieving medication to control discomfort. Take this medication only until you do not need it any more.
 - b. You may be given a prescription for antibiotics. Please take this medication as directed until the tablets are gone.
- Anesthesia should remain in your mouth for at least 1 hour after the surgery.
- As soon as possible after treatment, place an ice in a plastic bag and put it on the outside of your face for a few hours over the sites where the implants were placed. This reduces swelling and any potential bruising you may have. However, you may still have some swelling and bruising for a few days. It will go away gradually.
- Eat soft foods for a few days. The less force you put on the implant at this early time the better the chance for optimum healing.

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