

## **IMPLANT POST OP INSTRUCTIONS**

### **Please follow these additional instructions:**

- Avoid hard or crunchy foods in the area. Please chew on the opposite side when possible. Pressure from chewing hard or crunchy foods can cause implant movement or pain. If this occurs, the implant could become compromised and may require removal and replacement.
- Begin gently brushing the exposed silver abutment 2 weeks after the procedure. Initially, it is common to see some bleeding of the gum tissue with the beginning of brushing. Usually, this will subside after 2 days of normal brushing.

### **WILL I BE ABLE TO SEE THE IMPLANT?**

Depending on the location and stability of the implant being placed, your surgeon may opt to bury the implant under the gum tissue. Once healed, you will return and have the implant uncovered so the implant can be restored.

If stability is optimal, the second stage procedure can be bypassed, and a small attachment called an abutment is placed that protrudes through the gum tissue, which will be visible. Once the bone heals, the restoring dentist can access the implant without further surgery.



### **HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO HEAL? WHEN CAN THE CROWN BE PLACED?**

A dental crown can be attached to a dental implant once the implant has fused to the bone. This is a process called osseointegration. The length of time the bone must heal varies from case to case and will be discussed with your surgeon. You will need to be cleared by your surgeon before you can return to your dentist to have the crown placed.

### **IMPLANT OR ABUTMENT MOVEMENT**

If the implant begins to move, please call the office immediately. Pain may be present with implant movement. Occasionally the temporary abutment may come out. If so, do not be alarmed, keep the abutment in a safe place and call the office ASAP for further instructions. Typically, if you call within 24 hours of the abutment coming off, it can be simply replaced. Sometimes, your gum tissue may start to try to cover the implant. If so, you may need some tissue removed to replace the abutment. Typically, this can be done with local numbing injections and is a quick procedure.

### **FLIPPERS OR REMOVABLE DENTAL APPLIANCES**

If you have a removable dental appliance, please contact your general dentist to have any necessary adjustments made after swelling has subsided, unless directed otherwise by your surgeon.

### **FOLLOW UP APPOINTMENTS**

If a follow up appointment is required, it will be scheduled for you on the day of surgery. You will be notified of the date/time by your surgical assistant. If unsure about follow up appointments, please call the office.

***These instructions are in addition to the general post op instructions provided. Please reference those instructions as well. If you have any questions, please call the office.***