

**Kevin O'Grady D.D.S. Office Phone # 614-890-3130 EMERGENCY ONLY Phone # 614-580-9287**

### **POST-OPERATIVE IMPLANT CARE**

An artificial root has been placed in your mouth. The implant is located under the tissue and usually cannot be seen. For the rest of the day, keep your head elevated 45 degrees. The implant usually will remain submerged for a period of three to six months depending on your body's healing properties and the type of implant used. A follow-up appointment will be made to examine the implant in 3-5 months.

### **INTRAVENOUS MEDICATION**

If an IV was used today, you cannot drive a car or operate machinery for the remainder of the day.

### **SUTURES**

The sutures (stitches) will dissolve in ten to fourteen days. If non-resorbable sutures were used, you will need an appointment to return in three weeks to have the sutures removed. The sutures should be kept clean by massaging the area gently with a very soft toothbrush the day after surgery.

### **SMOKING**

Smoking must be avoided because it increases the chance of post-operative infection and lowers the body's ability to heal.

### **ALCOHOL**

Avoid alcohol, commercial mouth rinses with alcohol and very hot liquids for 48 hours.

### **WATER PIK**

Do not use a water pik unless directed to do so by the doctor. Do not drink through a straw and avoid spitting.

### **ANTIBIOTICS**

The appropriate antibiotic has been prescribed for you. It is very important that the prescription be filled and taken as directed. Do not stop taking the antibiotics before all of the pills are taken. Should you develop hives, itching, skin rash or difficulty breathing, stop taking the antibiotics immediately and call the doctor right away.

### **PAIN**

A certain amount of discomfort is normal for all types of surgery. To control your discomfort, please use extra strength Tylenol (650-1000mg) **AND** Ibuprofen (400-600mg) 4 times a day. If you need additional relief, substitute the **PRESCRIBED** pain medication for the Tylenol. Please take the prescribed medication according to the instructions. The pain medication may be stopped whenever you do not need them anymore.

### **SWELLING**

Some swelling is to be expected and is not unusual. In most instances swelling can be prevented or controlled. Apply an ice pack for a period of 20 minutes on and 20 minutes off for the rest of the day. **DO NOT** use ice after the first day. If swelling persists the second day, apply moist heat to the area. Use Ibuprofen as directed as long as there is either pain or swelling. In order to get the full anti-inflammatory effect of the Ibuprofen you must take it four times a day.

### **BLEEDING AND RINSING**

A small amount of bleeding following the surgery should not alarm you. If the bleeding is excessive, please call the doctor. Vigorous rinsing of the mouth may increase the bleeding and should be avoided for at least 3-4 days.