

Care of Your Child After Dental Surgery

Today your child had dental treatment under general anesthesia. It is very important that you follow these instructions carefully.

What to Expect

- Bleeding from the mouth if teeth have been removed.
- Feeling sick to their stomach. Vomiting may occur up to 4 hours after surgery.
- Pain in the mouth, nose, and throat.
- Slight rise in temperature for 24 hours. (99-100°F)
- Your child may be sleepy for several hours after returning home.

Activity and Care

- Rest and quiet activities are important after surgery. Your child's balance may be poor due to the medications given. Closely supervise any activity for the remainder of the day.
- If your child had teeth removed, avoid the use of a sippy cup, a straw or drinking from a soda pop/juice bottle or can for 48 hours after surgery **Have your child drink from an open cup only**. This will prevent bleeding from the extraction sites and promote healing.
- Avoid brushing your child's teeth for 24 hours only if teeth have been removed. If teeth have not been removed you should brush your child's teeth this evening prior to bedtime.
- You may want to place a towel over their pillow because of minor bleeding.

Diet

- Begin your child's diet with clear liquids such as apple juice or water. You may increase their diet slowly to include milk and soft foods when tolerated.
- If your child nurses or takes a bottle as their main source of nutrition, please do so only as necessary for 24 hours after surgery to prevent bleeding from extraction sites.

Medications

- An acetaminophen product (Tylenol, etc.) may be given every four to six hours to help relieve pain and elevated temperature.
- Avoid the use of Aspirin.

Seek Advice

- If vomiting persists beyond four (4) hours.
- If the temperature remains elevated beyond 24 hours above 101°F
- If there is difficulty breathing.
- If any other matter causes you concern.

Please call (304) 344-0788 or (888) 348-5556 after-hours if you have any questions or concerns.