



ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY
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Postoperative Instructions Immediate Dentures

In addition to the written **General Postoperative Instructions**, please follow these instructions:

First few days:

- Wear your dentures continuously for 48 hours. Remove your dentures briefly after each meal to rinse. But place them back in your mouth as quickly as possible. If you keep the dentures out too long the tissues will swell and prevent you from putting the dentures back in place. The a few days *after* surgery you will likely have an appointment with the dentist who made your dentures. At that appointment, your dentist will remove your dentures and give you an opportunity to rinse your mouth and check the extraction sites. Your dentist may also give you additional instructions on denture care.
- Following the first post operative week you must always remove your dentures before you go to sleep. You may store your denture(s) in water, or any other commercial product specifically intended for denture cleaning and storage.
- Long term sleeping with your dentures will cause tissue irritation, fungal infections and accelerated supporting bone loss.
- We have placed a soft pliable liner on the inside surface of your denture. The soft liner is kinder to your gums during the healing phase. After a while your dentist will remove the soft liner from the denture so you can start getting used to the hard denture acrylic.
- In almost all cases you will develop irritation sores on your gums from the denture(s). When you develop sores return to your dentist so the under surface of the denture can be relieved/adjusted.

Bone spicules: When we remove multiple teeth the remaining tooth sockets, craters have a rim which is irregular and sometimes sharp. We do our best to smooth all the rough edges at the time of surgery but it is impossible to eliminate all the irregularities without removing too much bone. Removal of too much bone will compromise the support for your dentures and they will be loose. Bone spicules are sharp or prominent ridges on bone which can cause pain or gum sores when you wear your dentures. Almost all patients develop bone spicules after surgery.

Getting used to your dentures:

- Dentures are a poor substitute for natural teeth, However millions of people have learned to talk and eat with dentures successfully.
- New dentures feel big, cumbersome and uncontrollable. The upper denture usually feels too long in the palate and too thick under your lip. The lower denture usually feels too loose.

A Professional association devoted to the practice of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery