



1246 West Paces Ferry Rd. NW Atlanta, GA 30327 (404)254-0750

Numbness Post-Operative Instructions:

- The sensation of being numb after the appointment is typically the most challenging aspect for a child to understand. Monitor your child closely so that he/she does not bite their tongue, cheek or lips - if this does happen, no treatment is necessary, but the lip may swell and turn white.
- It will take 1-3 hours for the numbness to wear off. During this time, your child should only eat soft foods on the opposite side of the mouth.

Extraction Post-Operative Instructions:

- Have your child bite on the provided gauze until bleeding is controlled, which may take up to 30 minutes. A small amount of oozing is normal; however, if bleeding becomes heavy have your child bite on a gauze or tea bag for 15 minutes.
- Remember that your child's cheek, lips and tongue will be numb for approximately 2-4 hours after the procedure.
- Avoid sippy cups, bottles, straws and pacifiers for the first 24 hours after the procedure. The sucking action may cause prolonged bleeding.
- Administer children's Tylenol or Motrin for any discomfort.

Space Maintainer Instructions:

- The cement we have used takes a while to dry. Nothing should be had to eat or drink for at least 45 minutes after leaving the office.
- To seat the spacer correctly, work must be done just below the gumline; therefore, expect your child's gums to be sore for 2-3 days. Your child's gum tissue may bleed upon brushing for the next few days. To help with healing, keep the area clean by gently brushing two to three times a day and flossing.
- It may take a few days for your child to adjust to the spacer. Do not let your child pick or pull at the spacer as continuous force and pressure can pull it off.
- Your child should avoid sticky, hard candies (i.e. taffy, suckers, starbursts, caramels) **for the life of the spacer**. Although it is cemented on to the tooth structure, these sticky foods can cause the crown or spacer to become loose.
- If a space maintainer ever comes off, make sure you bring it with you for recementation. If it is lost or broken, there will be a replacement charge.
- Dr. Millkey will monitor the area for growth at every check up. When the replacement adult tooth has erupted to a certain level, she will remove the space maintainer.