

# Post Operative Care - After Onlay Bone Grafting

This procedure augments the deficient area of your jawbone in order to prepare for a replacement implant for your missing teeth. You will likely have two surgical wounds following this procedure: the recipient site and the donor site. You should avoid chewing where the bone graft was placed until your post-operative consultation. You should also adhere to the following:



**Antibiotics:** All prescribed antibiotics are to be taken as directed in order to prevent infection.

**Oral Hygiene:** During the first 24-hour period, do not spit or rinse. This can disturb the blood clot, and may open the wound, which can prolong bleeding and hinder healing. After the first 24-hour period, you can rinse with 1/2 teaspoon of salt in a cup of warm water at least four to five times a day especially before bed and after meals.

Do not use commercial mouth rinses. Do not brush your teeth near the surgical site for 48 hours. Be sure to be very gentle when brushing. Also, be gentle when coughing up phlegm.



**Smoking:** Smoking significantly increases the probability of implant failure. You should avoid smoking for at least two weeks following surgery.

**Prosthesis or Night Guards:** Until your post-operative appointment, you should not use flippers, partial dentures, or full dentures (unless instructed otherwise).



**Other Considerations:** You should not be stretching your lip daily to inspect the dental implant area. You will notice that gum is covering the area – this is important so your implant can heal properly. There may be a healing cap placed over your implant.

Be sure not to eat or chew on the healing cap because it will cause the implant to move below and could cause implant failure.