

POST OPERATIVE PATIENT INFORMATION
Reduction of Facial Bone Fractures

WHAT TO EXPECT:

1. You may have blood-tinged nasal drainage out of your nose and down the back of your throat for several days to weeks. This is nothing to be concerned about unless it becomes bright, bloody drainage. This would be unusual and you should contact our office immediately if this were to occur.
2. You may experience a sense of pressure in your cheeks and numbness in your upper teeth.
3. The stitches in your mouth may be annoying, but they will dissolve. Don't worry if you find yourself playing with them with your tongue, but try to leave these alone as it may remove them prematurely.
4. Your cheek area may be swollen and/or bruised for 7-10 days after the surgery.
5. Your eyelid may also be swollen.

PRECAUTIONS AND WOUND CARE:

1. You may resume your normal diet as tolerated. No alcoholic beverages for the 24 hours after surgery.
2. You should keep your head elevated above the rest of your body--no bending or heavy lifting.
3. Apply iced washcloths or ice packs to your cheek area; 15 minutes on and 5 minutes off and repeat to your comfort.
4. Take your pain medication as prescribed. Call if you need more, if it does not adequately relieve your pain, or if you are having any adverse effects such as nausea.
5. **No nose blowing** until after you are given the "O.K." to do so by the office or by residents.
6. Anyone having a general anesthetic should not participate in any activity requiring mental alertness, physical coordination, or balance; e.g. driving, bicycling, etc. for 24 hours after the anesthetic.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Call the office if you note any signs of early infection, such as increasing redness, swelling, or a feeling of warmth and firmness in the area.

FOLLOW-UP:

1. Follow-up in office approximately one week after surgery.

If you are uncertain about any of the above items or have any questions, please contact our office at (702) 834-5886 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. After hours, if you have an emergency, go to the emergency room or call the office number and you will be connected to the on-call physician.

My postoperative instructions have been explained to me, I understand their meaning and a copy has been given to me.

Patient/Family: _____ Date: _____

Nurse: _____