

Routine Dental Procedures: Fillings, Crowns/Bridges, Veneers, Root Canals, Scaling/Root Planing (Deep Cleaning)

When anesthetics are used, the numbness can last several hours after the procedure. Avoid chewing and drinking hot beverages until the anesthetic has worn off.

Some discomfort, including hot or cold sensitivity, after dental procedures is normal. The doctor may recommend taking 800 mg of Ibuprofen three times a day for 3 to 5 days to relieve mild to moderate discomfort. Take medications as prescribed.

Acetaminophen (Tylenol) and Ibuprofen (Advil) taken together is an excellent form of pain control and has been clinically proven to provide pain control equal to that of narcotic pain medications. Acetaminophen is taken as directed on the label from the manufacturer. Tylenol is often an ingredient in your narcotic pain prescription. Tylenol should be taken only in place of the narcotic pain medication, not in addition to it.

Gentle rinsing with warm salt water or a Chlorhexidine mouth rinse can also be helpful to aid in the healing of irritated gum tissue. Dissolve 1/2 teaspoon of salt in 8 oz. of warm water and rinse 2-3 times daily for the first week. A prescription Chlorhexidine mouth rinse may also be given. Rinse 2-3 times daily as prescribed.

Call the office if you are experiencing any of the following:

Lingering hot or cold sensitivity
High bite or you are avoiding chewing on the treated teeth
Pain or pressure that lasts more than a few days
Numbness that lasts longer than 12 hours
An increase in facial swelling

These symptoms may indicate that an adjustment or further treatment is needed.