



Care Instructions Following Local Anesthesia

Your child has received local anesthesia today as part of his or her dental treatment. You should watch your child carefully to prevent him/her from chewing, scratching, or vigorously rubbing the numb area since they will feel no pain. This is most often a problem when the lower jaw is numb since the numbness includes the lip, chin, and inner cheek area. The anesthesia will typically last 2-3 hours, although this time may vary.

During this time your child should avoid chewing any food on that side as this may result in inadvertent self-inflicted trauma. Maintain a soft or liquid diet only for this initial period.

Should your child inadvertently bite or chew their mouth then ulceration and swelling may occur, but should heal uneventfully in 7-10 days and leave no scarring. The area would appear whitish/yellow in color, which is not an indicator of infection, but rather represents both the traumatized tissues and the newly formed reparative tissue.

You may give your child Tylenol or Advil for any discomfort. Feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

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