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DEEP SCALING AND ROOT PLANING AFTER CARE INSTRUCTIONS

To minimize the discomfort and aid proper healing following your deep cleaning, we suggest the following:

- 1. After the procedure, take aspirin, Tylenol (acetaminophen), or Advil (ibuprofen) *before* the anesthetic wears off. Continue to take one tablet every four hours for the next two days.
- 2. Rinse with a warm salt-water solution (mix ½ teaspoon salt in 8 oz. warm water) two or three times an hour for the next day or two.
- 3. Use a soft toothbrush at least two times a day. Be gentle and *clean thoroughly*. Slight bleeding may occur while brushing as the tissues begin to heal.
- 4. Avoid strong spicy seasonings, and hard "chips" for the next few days.
- 5. As the tissues heal, some sensitivity to cold may occur. Use a desensitizing toothpaste (such as Fluoridex or Sensodyne), or fluoride gel (such as Prevident or Gel-Kam) frequently (at least 4 times/day) for 1 to 2 weeks. Also, the cleaner the teeth are kept, the less sensitive they will be.
- 6. Faithfully use any other oral hygiene aids that have been recommended (floss, Perio-Aid, rubber tip, Sonicare, Prox-a-brush, Gel-Kam fluoride, Peridex mouthrinse, etc).
- 7. Refrain from smoking for 24 hours or longer. Tobacco interferes with healing.
- 8. If there has been an expressed concern about your root surface decay tendency please consider the following root surface hardening fluoride treatments: PREVIDENT/FLUORIDEX (toothpaste by prescription) ACT (mouthwash) by Johnson & Johnson, FLUORIGARD (mouthwash) by Colgate or GC MI paste as *non-*fluoride option. Please also ask for a fluoride treatment when having your recall maintenance treatment.

Thank you for entrusting us with your care.