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Patient Instructions for Gingivectomy Procedure

- **After Surgery:**

--After the procedure(s) often the treating doctor may put a temporary bandage called periodontal dressing over your gums. This will protect them while they heal.

--You will return to our office in one week for post-operative check and to have the dressing removed.

--It is very important to keep your mouth clean during the healing period.

--Do not brush your teeth in the surgical area while the periodontal dressing is in place.

--You can eat soft foods and drink cool or slightly warm liquids. Avoid spicy or crunchy food.

--We may give you a prescription for an antibiotic, pain medication or chlorhexidine mouth rinse. As with all surgical procedures, there is a risk of bleeding and developing an infection.

- **Contact our office if:**

--You have bleeding that will not stop.

--You have pain that does not respond to medication prescribed by the treating doctor.

--You have excessive swelling or discharge from the surgical area.

--You think the surgical site may be infected.

--The protective dressing becomes loose or displaced.

--Lymph nodes beneath your lower jaw or in your neck becomes swollen.

--Your gums will begin to look normal in 3-4 weeks, but may take 2-3 months for the tissue to heal completely.