



CONSENT FOR AND SPECIAL CARE OF THE MOUTH FOLLOWING A GINGIVAL GRAFT NOT INTENDED TO COVER THE ROOT

1. The purpose of the gingival graft or to stop additional recession and bone loss and thereby save the tooth. We are NOT attempting to cover the exposed roots.
2. The area where the graft was taken (the palate or other area) will cause you the most problem. Since you do not form a "scab" in the mouth, the area will appear ulcerated. Don't be concerned for this is normal healing.
3. Be careful not to dislodge the dressing. If it comes off on its own and you do not experience increased discomfort or bleeding it does not need to be replaced.
4. Be careful with the grafted site by not brushing it until we see you in 3 weeks. A tissue adhesive is often used. This will usually come off in a few days and look like a piece of white plastic. This is normal. Any suture used will dissolve.
5. Use the antiseptic spray or rinse with the chlorhexidine mouthwash 2-3 times each day you may rinse with water or warm salt water other ties to dislodge food.
6. The most common problem associated with the palatal donor site or other donor areas is bleeding. The slightest trauma during eating, etc. May start bleeding. Using gauze or tea bags apply firm pressure. Apply this pressure for a minimum of 15 minutes. Always remove all large loose clots before applying pressure. This type of bleeding may occur from time to time after surgery.
7. You may experience swelling and bruising of your face following your gingival graft. This is sometimes very noticeable and can result in a black eye. You have been given medications to try to reduce this. Using an ice pack on the surgical side of your face during the first 48 hours following your graft, 20 minutes on 20 minutes off, sleeping with your head elevated and being extraordinarily careful with the area to prevent additional bleeding will also help decrease the amount of swelling you experience. Following these instructions will improve the success of your graft.
8. Slight bleeding at the graft site is normal for several hours and no pressure should be applied there since it may dislodge the graft.
9. The surgical areas will be much more comfortable and heal more rapidly if you avoid salty, spicy, and acidic foods. Poor healing will result if you don't maintain proper nutrition. Avoid eating in the surgical sites until we see you in three weeks. Do not chew gum or bite into sandwiches/ fruit etc. and eat soft foods. Cut food into small bite sized pieces until your post-operative visit. You may chew normally in sites where no surgery was done.
10. Smoking seems to affect the circulation to the graft and may cause the graft to slough. It is very important, therefore, that you cut back or preferably stop smoking during the healing process.
11. The area where the gingival graft was placed will have a cut in the side of the cheek when the lip is pulled out. This is normal and will disappear during healing. The graft will appear grey this is also normal.
12. The healing time and discomfort is variable and ranges from 1-10 days. In many cases, but not all, you will be fine to return to work the next day.
13. If you have any problems or questions, don't hesitate to call us at the office (954)-427-5700 or Dr. DeTure's cell (954)599-6425.
14. Please sign that you have read and understand these instructions, have had any questions answered and consent to this procedure as outlined above.

Date: _____ Signed: X _____ Reviewer: _____