

Care of the Mouth after Local Anesthetic

Your child has had local anesthetic for their dental restorations:

- If the procedure was in the lower jaw... the tongue, teeth, lip and surrounding tissue will be numb or asleep.
- If the procedure was in the upper jaw... the teeth, lip and surrounding tissue will be numb or asleep.

Often children do not understand the effects of local anesthesia, and may chew, scratch, suck, or play with the numb lip, tongue, or cheek. These actions can cause minor irritation or they can be severe enough to cause swelling and abrasions to the tissue. Please monitor your child closely for approximately two hours following the appointment. It is often wise to keep your child on a liquid or soft diet until the anesthetic has worn off.

Once the anesthetic has worn off your child may have soreness and bruising. Use Children's Motrin or Tylenol for any discomfort as needed. Keep the area clean by brushing as usual.

Please do not hesitate to call the office at (703) 754-1580 if there are any questions.

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