



General Extraction

At The Practice we pride ourselves on ensuring our patients are well informed on their dental health and treatment options. This information sheet is aimed to give you general information and risks involved with procedures. Your dentist will be able to identify your specific risks and benefits. As always our providers will endeavour to manage any undesired outcomes for you and perform procedures with the highest level of safety and care for you.

WHY DO I NEED A TOOTH EXTRACTED?

A tooth may need to be extracted for a number of reasons; this can include disease surrounding gums (periodontitis), extensive damage to the tooth, a diseased or infected tooth and problems with eruption such as wisdom teeth. Teeth may also sometimes have to be extracted as part of orthodontic treatment.

HOW IS A TOOTH REMOVED?

Local anaesthetics, or at times a General Anesthetic, can be used to ensure patient comfort during a tooth extraction procedure. Some extractions are considered “simple” where the tooth is loosened down the ligament and detached from the bone and elevated out. Others can involve a more surgical approach and your dentist will discuss with you on your particular case. During a surgical extraction you should still feel limited discomfort as you are anesthetised. The Dentist may need to section your tooth into pieces or remove some bone to “unlock” the tooth allowing it to be removed. In some cases the Dentist will refer you to a surgeon if required.

RISKS AND COMPLICATIONS

It has explained to me the methods and procedures which are involved in the extraction of my tooth/teeth. I have also had explained to me the alternative treatment options as possible risks and complications involved with extractions, including but not limited to:

- **Pain:** Pain can occur in the jaw due to irritation of the nerves and the movement of the joint(TMJ) during the extraction. This pain is usually temporary and can often be treated with most over the counter pain medications.
- **Dry Socket:** A dry socket can occur when the blood clot does not correctly form in the remaining socket after the tooth has been extracted. The bone underneath the gum can be exposed to air or food and become painful usually 2-3 days post removal. Smoking can largely increase the risk of a dry socket. Dry sockets can be reviewed and treated separately.
- **Infection:** The remaining socket can become infected and must be kept clean to reduce the risk of infection. This is likely to resolve completely once treatment is undertaken but if infection continues to occur it can usually be treated with antibiotics.
- **Tooth Fracture:** It is possible that during the extraction, the tooth may fracture, particularly at the root. The remaining fragment of the root may be left in place if the dentist deems it too risky to remove such as where it may lie close to a nerve.
- **Nerve Damage:** During the extraction, the underlying nerves may lie close to the tooth that requires to be extracted. Despite all precautions being taken, the nerves can be damaged and numbness or loss of feeling can occur. The effects of this are normally temporary if the nerve is irritated during surgery, but can be permanent if significant damage occurs to the

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nerve. Areas that can be affected by this include the lips, chin, cheeks and tongue and surrounding teeth.

- **Adjacent teeth fillings or crown Damage:** While precautions are taken to reduce damage adjacent teeth can sometimes be damaged during the procedure and may need repairing or replacement and I understand this may incur additional charges.
- **Sinus-Mouth Communication:** Removal of upper molars/premolars that are located close to the sinus floor can lead to a communication between the sinus and the mouth. This may require an additional procedure for its repair, and I understand this will incur additional charges.

I, _____ have read the above information and had the opportunity to ask the dentist any questions and have received satisfactory explanations regarding the procedure and risks involved.

I agree to give my consent to have _____ extracted.

Patient/Legal Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____