

Dental Practice of
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MEDICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Take as directed all the medications given to you or prescribed for you. They have been given to you for very important reasons. *The only type of medicine that you do not have to take all of is the pain medicine.* Take all the medications with food unless otherwise stated. Have the prescriptions filled before surgery and take the medications before surgery as directed. **Bring the bottles with you to your surgical appointment.**

Pain Medications (Norco, Advil, Motrin, Tylenol)

Please take the prescribed medication every 3 – 4 hours the day of and the day after surgery, even if you have no pain. It is much easier to keep you pain free than to get out of pain once it occurs. If you have moderate to severe pain, we recommend alternating your pain medications (Norco) with 400mg of ibuprofen every 2 hours for pain. **Example: If you take your Norco at 6:00 pm, you can take 400mg of ibuprofen at 8:00 pm and followed by another Norco at 10:00 pm.** Do not drive or operate machinery if you are taking the prescribed pain medication. If you develop a rash or have difficulty in breathing, call our office. If you are having only minimal discomfort, you may switch to over-the-counter pain relievers (Tylenol, Advil, Motrin). **Avoid aspirin, as it may slow healing.**

Antibiotics (Pen V K, Amoxicillin, Z-Pack, Clindamycin, Augmentin, Keflex)

You will be prescribed an antibiotic to help prevent infection. To be most effective, please take the medication as prescribed. You will start taking the antibiotic one day prior to surgery. It is important to take all of the antibiotic to completion. **Failure to take this medication as directed will increase your risk of infection.** If you develop a fever, drainage, and/or increased swelling after the surgery, please contact our office (236-3122). If an allergy occurs (hives, itching, rash), discontinue the medication and contact our office.

Anti-Inflammatory (Decadron, Medrol Pack)

You will be prescribed an anti-inflammatory medication to help minimize swelling after surgery. Unless you are told otherwise, you should take this medication for three (3) days (six (6) tablets the day before your surgery, three (3) tablets the morning of your surgery and one (1) tablet the next morning or Medrol Pack as directed on package.

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