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POST-OPERATIVE TISSUE GRAFT INSTRUCTIONS

You have just undergone a *tissue graft* procedure. The goal is to gain attached gingival tissue in the area. *It is important for you to understand how fragile this tissue is and the active part you must be responsible for in caring for the tissue to ensure the best results.* These instructions are for your benefit and will aid in your comfort and success following surgery.

The tissue for the graft may have been harvested from the roof of your mouth or, it may be donor tissue. *It is normal for this harvested area to feel sensitive,* similar to a pizza burn.

- 1. No rinsing or spitting for 48 hours after surgery
- 2. Maintain a liquid diet for 48 hours
- 3. Do not pull on cheek or lip or disrupt the tissue graft in any way
- 4. Do not irrigate or floss graft area until the doctor advises you to do so
- 5. Only gentle brushing in graft area, carefully keeping area very clean
- 6. Begin gentle salt water rinses 48 hours after surgery, four times per day

Keep in mind the tissue graft is fragile and it will need to be CAREFULLY MAINTAINED!

Notify the Doctor if any of the following occur:

- · If pain or swelling increase after three days
- If sutures become loose or dislodged before three days
- If you think you may have lost the graft
- If you have any symptoms which may indicate an allergic reaction
- If your body temperature, taken orally, becomes higher than 100°F

PLEASE notify the office if you have any questions, we are concerned with your recovery.

You can contact Dr. Thomas at home: (248) 676-2146 or cell: (313) 530-8833 if you have any problems.