

## LOWER WISDOM TOOTH EXTRACTION INFORMATION AND CONSENT FORM

Lower wisdom teeth are the most difficult of tooth extractions for a few reasons: hard to access because they are so far back, very dense bone, often not all the way out, close to nerves and blood vessels.

### Risks:

- 1) **Nerve damage:** Inferior alveolar nerve and lingual nerve.

The nerves which supply the lip, tongue and lower teeth and gums sit very close to the roots of the lower wisdom teeth. Due to their close proximity to the surgical site, these nerves can become damaged or bruised despite all due care being exercised during the operation.

We will take an xray to assess the relationship of the wisdom tooth to the inferior alveolar nerve. If it is very close, we will request a 3D xray (tomograph) to better see this relationship. However, even with all these precautions, there is always a slight chance damage to the nerves may occur following operation in this area and this can leave numbness or changed sensation in the areas that these nerves supply.

This changed sensation is usually temporary, though it may take some months to return to normal. On rare occasions the damage is permanent.

- 2) Post-extraction swelling and pain. The first three days the swelling and discomfort will be the worst, and generally gets better after that. It is just a natural part of the healing process.
- 3) Dry Socket: the lower wisdom teeth are at the highest risk of developing dry socket after the extraction. Dry socket is inflammation of the bone, which is extremely painful. It generally starts to show symptoms 3 days after the extraction. The risk is higher in patients who smoke and patients with lowered immune systems.
- 4) Bleeding and Infection
- 5) Risk of requiring surgical extraction: this means we will have to cut the gums, we may or may not need to section the tooth, we may or may not need to remove bone around the tooth.
- 6) Root fracture during extraction. The root may or may not be left.
- 7) Jaw joint soreness during and after the extraction process, or muscle ache during the extraction.
- 8) Risk of requiring specialist removal – if it is deemed a very high risk or difficult extraction, we will organize a referral to someone with more expertise. However, sometimes extractions do not go as planned. If during extraction, we foresee complications or cannot remove the tooth, we may elect to cease the procedure and organize a referral for you.

### Consent

I have read and understood the above risks. I have had the opportunity to ask questions and understand the procedure involved and the possible complications. I hereby give my consent to extraction of my wisdom tooth/teeth. I accept all risks involved in such procedures.

**Signed:**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Patient name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DOB:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dentist:** \_\_\_\_\_