



Biopsy Instructions

Biopsy procedures are common. A tissue sample has been obtained and submitted for microscopic examination by a pathologist. Typically, the tissue is sent by courier to the pathologist. Because this is a different doctor and service, they will bill you and your insurance company separately.

Oftentimes the after-effects of biopsy surgery are quite minimal, so not all of the instructions may apply. However, when in doubt, follow these guidelines or call our office as some procedures are more extensive than others. Common sense will often dictate what you should do.

A certain amount of bleeding is to be expected following surgery. Bleeding is controlled by applying pressure, by mild to moderate bite force, using a small rolled gauze for a 60-minute period. After that time, remove the gauze, and then you may eat or drink. Repeat if necessary. If bleeding persists, call our office.

Sutures that may have been placed, on occasion, will untie or come out early. As a result, the incision may open. This is common and usually due to the movement of muscles in the lips and tongue. The incision will heal naturally and will not require additional sutures.

Typically, it takes 2-3 weeks to obtain pathology results. If there are any concerns or questions about the process during that period of time, please feel free to contact our office. We will follow up with you when results are available and send a report to your referring dentist.

Each case will differ, no two cases are alike. Do not accept well-intended advice from friends. If you have any questions or concerns, please discuss them with our office. We are here to support and help you throughout your recovery.

**THE ABOVE INSTRUCTIONS ARE PROCEDURE SPECIFIC AND ACCOMPANY THE GENERAL
POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS**