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N.J. Specialty Permit #3336

Practice Limited to Endodontics

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DRAINAGE

Your tooth or gums have been treated by opening into the site of infection. This allows the “gases” and pus, which cause pain and swelling, to escape from inside the tooth and tissue. The following suggestions, if observed, assist in maintaining comfort and reducing possible swelling.

- 1) Rinse tooth with HOT salt water for a few minutes every hour (one half teaspoon of salt in large glass of water).
- 2) Avoid blocking the open tooth with food by cautiously eating on the opposite side of your mouth, (even when the tooth becomes comfortable)
- 3) To remove any accidental food blockage, vigorously rinse after meals with water. Never probe the opening with pins or toothpicks which can break and result in the extraction of the tooth.
- 4) Periodically, suck on the opening to aid debridement and drainage.
- 5) If medication has been prescribed, use according to directions provided.
- 6) Notify the office in the event swelling or if the pain increases, or if a problem occurs which causes you concern.

Please Note: This is emergency treatment to eliminate pain and swelling only!

This procedure alone will not eliminate the cause of the problem. You must make and keep additional appointments to sterilize the source of the infection and cure the problem. Failure to do so will only lead to the infection returning when the antibiotics are used up, often with more problems than the first time.