## **GUM GRAFT**

If you are having a gum graft rebuilding procedure, called a gum graft, the following will apply to you.

This procedure is generally accomplished in about an hour and is done with local anesthesia (Novocaine). The tooth that has recession will be cleaned and an antibiotic will be applied to the root surface to disinfect the outer layer.

A suitable site is chosen to borrow the gum tissue for the graft, which is often on the top jaw and on the inside near the back teeth. The proper amount of gum is taken from this area and is then placed over and around the tooth which has the recession. This tissue is held in place with several sutures. Protective dressings are then used to cover the sites.

You will return in approximately one week to have the dressing removed and the areas checked. There will be several quick follow up-visits to check the healing until the tissues are fully mature.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Q. Can I eat before the procedure?
- A. Yes, follow your normal diet.
- Q. Can I eat after the procedure?

Yes, but please wait until the numbness goes away (usually within 1-3 hours after the procedure) to prevent biting or burning of the tongue.

- Q. Do I need a driver?
- A. No, unless you have a form of sedation along with the local anesthetic.
- Q. Will I be able to go back to work?
- A. In most cases, yes. We recommend that you fill your prescriptions and begin taking them as we have recommended prior to the appointment. We also recommend that you have some means of applying a cold pack intermittently to the outside of the face to prevent swelling.
- Q. Will there be much pain afterwards?
- A. Patients' experiences vary and if you carefully follow our recommendations before and after your procedure, you should experience minimal discomfort.

If you have any additional questions prior to the procedure, please do not hesitate to call. (610) 664-9510 OR EMAIL US: <u>BORGUET@GMAIL.COM</u>

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