

# CENTRE ORAL & FACIAL SURGERY

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## INSTRUCTIONS FOLLOWING DRAINAGE OF ORAL ABSCESS

Please read this handout carefully and keep it as a reference for after surgery. Every surgical procedure is different, so not all of the instructions may apply. Common sense will often dictate what you should do. When in doubt, or if you have any questions not addressed below, please do not hesitate to call.

### Swelling and Pain

You can expect pain, swelling and residual soreness to slowly resolve over the next 7-10 days. If you experience throat swelling, or breathing becomes difficult, contact the doctor immediately or go to the nearest emergency room.

### Bleeding

The drainage site will ooze blood and pus for the next 1-2 days. This can produce a bad taste and foul breath. If you experience heavy bleeding, contact the doctor immediately.

### Be sure to:

- Take all medications as prescribed. The combination of antibiotics, pain medication, and drainage can cause an upset stomach. If stools become loose or you have nausea and vomiting, contact our office.
- Drink plenty of water and keep well hydrated.
- Massage and apply warm moist heat to the swollen area of the face as much as possible.
- Brush and floss your teeth like usual but avoid the area(s) where the surgery was performed. A warm salt water rinse (1/4 teaspoon salt dissolved in 8 ounces of warm water) is soothing and can help keep your mouth clean.

**Please remember that your follow-up visits are very important.**

**Our 24 hour, 7 days a week contact number is 814-235-7700.**

Our web site, [centreoms.com](http://centreoms.com), has additional information that you may find useful.