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SINUS INVOLVEMENT

THESE ARE PROCEDURE-SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS THAT ACCOMPANY
THE "POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTION" BROCHURE

Sinus involvement is common with upper molar extractions and procedures that are located at the back portion of the upper jaw.

A sinus opening may occur because the bone which is shared between the tooth socket and the sinus is very thin and may even be absent. If an opening occurs between the socket and sinus, a closure procedure may have been completed.

This closure can require additional stitches, and can be very delicate. Ultimately, to maintain the closure, special instructions are needed to reduce pressure between the mouth and sinus.

Activities that increase sinus pressure must be avoided. This includes the use of straws, not blowing your nose, and not "holding in" sneezes. If you have sinus congestion, "over the counter" oral decongestant medications, such as Sudafed, may have been advised. If you have high blood pressure or take high blood pressure medications, check with your physician before taking decongestants.

When there is an opening between the sinus and tooth socket, blood from the tooth socket may enter the sinus. The sinus will clear this blood and it will be discharged either down the throat or out of your nose. This will often be a dark-colored discharge. Do not be alarmed, as this is normal.

If you have an increase in pain, swelling, drainage or an unusual feeling of air passage in the socket, please call the doctor.

