

## **WHAT IS AN EXTRACTION?**

A tooth extraction is a dental procedure during which your tooth is completely removed from its socket. Teeth extractions are done for multiple reasons - the main reason is usually because a tooth has become infected and is unrestorable because of infection or heavy decay. When a tooth is heavily decayed or impacted it may turn into a surgical extraction, This the gum may need to be raised to remove bone around the tooth to help remove it. Surgical extractions are to be done in a sterile environment to ensure that no cross infection happens. For this procedure you may need to use a surgical straight handpiece which is used on an implant motor with a saline attachment or irrigation.

### **Reasons why teeth are usually extracted:**

- Tooth decay
- Periodontal disease
- Dental trauma
- Wisdom teeth
- More room needed for orthodontic work

### **How to know which tooth:**

1. Check patients treatment plan to see what tooth is charted
2. Confirm with the patients full mouth x-ray
3. Confirm with the treating clinician

### **Aftercare:**

For the first 2 hours the patient needs to swallow all saliva and blood and no rinsing or spitting. Gauze swab in place over the wound with pressure for 1 hour after the procedure. After 1 hour the gauze swab is to be removed, a new swab may be placed if there is continued bleeding. Take analgesics (pain medication) as directed below. Avoid alcohol or smoking for at least 48 hours following extraction/s. For the first 24 hours hot foods and liquids are to be avoided. Eat only soft, lukewarm food. Starting later today patients can gently rinse their mouth with lukewarm salt water or mouthwash if provided. Rinsing regularly for 1-2 weeks or until the wound has healed. It is imperative that rinsing is only performed very gently for the first 24 hours to avoid removing the

blood clot that will form.