

## NEED ORAL SURGERY? NOW WHAT?

**\*This information sheet in no way constitutes medical or dental advice. Always consult your Hemophilia Treatment Center (HTC) or Hematologist's office before seeking any treatment.**

Planning for oral surgery can be stressful for anyone but for persons with bleeding disorders there may be more questions and concerns.

- You will need a primary care dentist (PCD) to help manage oral health. If you don't have one, ask your HTC or hematologist's office to refer you.
- Your PCD and the oral surgeon must work together to present the best treatment for you.
- When seeing the oral surgeon for the first time, provide him (her) with contact information for your HTC or hematologist. Take your HTC or hematologist's business card with you –it has important contact info.
- Once the oral surgery procedures are planned, the HTC or hematologist will provide the oral surgeon with recommendations for managing bleeding – **you must be in contact with your HTC or hematologist regarding your treatment plan.**

Pre & Post surgery recommendations may include any or all of the following:

- Stiminate or Factor Replacement
- Use of an antifibrinolytic agent
- Appropriate pain medications
- Hemostatic agents for the surgical site
- A stent or pressure device to use after surgery

The HTC or Hematologist's office will provide recommendations. The oral surgeon will also review some of these and may add more before discharge.

- ✓ Use of ice to help reduce swelling after surgery
- ✓ Dosage and frequency of clotting agents and antifibrinolytic agents
- ✓ Dietary guidelines
- ✓ Oral hygiene including tooth brushing and rinsing after surgery

Hospital based dental programs are limited. Most oral surgery will be done in the community outpatient setting.

### ***How will you pay for oral surgery?***

- Private dental insurance usually covers oral surgery but not always at 100%. You may have a copay.
- Medicaid covers most oral surgery however there are a limited number of oral surgeons who participate with Medicaid.
- Always get prior authorization for the procedures so that you know what costs you will be responsible for. Seek financial assistance before surgery.
- Please note: Basic Medicare does not cover dental procedures.
- Contact your HTC or Hematologist's office nurse or social worker about other financial assistance resources that may be available.

### ***What else is important?***

1. Follow recommendations from your Hematologist and Oral Surgeon
2. *Schedule procedures early in the week so that you can access your Hematologist if needed*
3. Verify that the Oral Surgeon participates with your dental insurance and/or Medicaid plan. If you go out of your plan you will have bigger copays or maybe even no financial coverage.