

## POST TREATMENT EXPECTATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH LASER GUM SURGERY

**The diode laser uses radiant energy to heal periodontal disease. The laser works two ways: 1) it removes diseased tissue and 2) it decontaminates the periodontal pocket by killing the disease causing bacteria living there. Laser therapy is used in conjunction with deep cleaning.**

Expect the treated area to be sore and tender to the touch for 4-7 days. Take analgesics like Advil or Tylenol every 3-4 hours for pain. If the treated area involves the tissue around the last tooth on the upper or lower then you may experience a "sore throat" type of discomfort 1 or 2 days after treatment. **NO SMOKING FOR SIX (6) HOURS AFTER TREATMENT.**

The treated area will bleed and be tender when you clean it. This is normal and should subside in 7-14 days. If the area is extremely sore during cleaning, you may rinse with Chloraseptic prior to your cleaning routine. The successful outcome of gum disease treatment is dependent upon thorough daily removal of the bacteria that cause the disease.

It is normal to experience hot, cold, or sweet sensitivity immediately after treatment. Typically after gum surgery the tissue shrinks and the root surface is exposed. This can be treated with fluoride or desensitizing toothpaste. If sensitivity persists, please call for an appointment for evaluation. You may also be prescribed fluoride to prevent decay on the root surfaces.

You may notice for the first 3-4 days that the treated area will be sensitive to hot, spicy, acidic foods. This doesn't mean you can't have them, just be careful.

If you have been prescribed antimicrobial mouth rinse and or antibiotics be sure to continue the therapy as directed. As usual, if you have any questions about any of your treatment, call our office.