

## **Informed Consent Flap Curettage & Pocket Reduction Surgery**

**Diagnosis:** Periodontal disease.

**Purpose of Flap Curettage & Pocket Reduction Surgery:** I have been informed that the purpose of flap curettage & pocket reduction surgery is to reduce infection and inflammation and to restore my gum and bone to the fullest extent possible. The surgery is intended to help me keep my teeth in the operated areas and to make my oral hygiene more effective. It should also enable professionals to better clean my teeth.

**Alternative Treatment:** The following alternatives to flap curettage & pocket reduction surgery have been explained to me:

- No treatment (with the expectation of possible advancement of my condition which may result in premature tooth loss).
- Non-surgical scraping of tooth roots and lining of the gum (scaling and root planing), with or without antibiotics. This may not reduce gum pockets, will require more frequent professional care and time commitment, and may not arrest the worsening of my condition and the premature loss of teeth.
- Extraction (removal) of teeth involved with periodontal disease.

**Surgical Procedures may involve some, or all, of the following:**

- Use of local anesthetic, oral or intravenous sedation, antibiotics, analgesics and sutures (stitches).

**Risks and Complications of flap curettage & pocket reduction surgery:** I understand that the risks and complications include, but are not limited to:

- Allergic reactions to dental materials/medications,
- Bleeding, swelling, infection,
- Pain,
- Temporary or permanent tooth sensitivity,
- Bruising,
- Scarring,
- Cuts inside mouth or on lips,
- Slow healing,
- Temporary restriction of mouth opening,
- Increased tooth/teeth mobility,
- Tooth sensitivity to hot, cold, sweet or acidic foods
- Possible altered or loss of sensation due to dental nerve damage (teeth, gums, lips, tongue, cheeks, face, palate, chin) including loss of taste which may resolve over time, but in some cases may be permanent,
- Impact on speech,
- Decementation of fillings, onlays, crowns in area of treatment,
- Gum recession on the tooth in question and neighboring teeth,
- Unaesthetic exposure of crown margins,
- Persistent periodontal disease despite treatment,
- Food lodging between teeth after meals.

**Risks and Complications of local anesthetic use:** I understand that the risks and complications associated with the use of local anesthetic include, but are not limited to: Nerve injury, resulting in altered or loss of sensation, numbness, pain, or altered feeling in the face, cheek(s), lips, chin, teeth, gums, and/or tongue (including loss of taste). Such conditions may resolve, but in some cases may be permanent.

**No Warranty or Guarantee:** I understand that a small number of patients do not respond successfully to periodontal surgery, and in such cases, the involved teeth may eventually be lost. Periodontal surgery may not be successful in preserving function or appearance. Because each patient's condition is unique, long-term success may not occur. There is no method that will accurately predict or evaluate how my gum and bone will heal. I understand that there may be a need for a second procedure if the initial results are not satisfactory.

**Consent to Unforeseen Conditions:** During treatment, unknown conditions, such as discovery of changed prognosis for adjacent structures or teeth, may modify or change the original treatment plan. I therefore authorize the treating dentist to do additional or alternative procedures if, in his/her professional judgment, it is in my best interest.

**Compliance with Self-Care Instructions:**

In order to increase the chance of achieving optimal results, I have provided an accurate and complete medical history, including all past and present dental and medical conditions, prescription and non-prescription medications, any allergies, recreational drug use, and pregnancy (if applicable).

I understand that trauma to the healing areas, smoking, medical conditions, clenching and/or grinding of teeth, dietary and nutritional problems, alcohol intake and medications I may be taking may affect healing and may limit the successful outcome of my surgery.

I agree to follow all instructions provided to me by this office before and after the procedure, take medication(s) as prescribed, practice good oral hygiene, keep all appointments, make return appointments if complications arise and complete care. I will inform my doctor of any post-operative problems as they arise. My failure to comply could result in complications or less than optimal results.

**Supplemental Records and Their Use:** I consent to photography, filming, recording, and x-rays of my oral structures as related to these procedures, and for their educational use in lectures or publications, provided my identity is not revealed.

**Patient's Endorsement:** My endorsement (signature) to this form indicates that I have read and fully understand the terms and words within this document and the explanations referred to or implied. After thorough deliberation, I give my consent for the performance of any and all procedures related to flap curettage & pocket reduction surgery as presented to me during the consultation and treatment plan presentation by the dentist.

You or your responsible party will have the opportunity to sign an electronic copy of this form when you arrive at our office for your appointment.