

Dear Patient,

We would like to express our sincere thanks to you for your confidence in our practice. We hope you have a pleasant experience in our office with our staff and doctors. We would like for you to read this letter as a method of helping you understand the treatment that you may receive. Unfortunately, we have to share some information with you that may be a little scary, but rest assured that we will do everything that is possible to minimize your discomfort. Our goal is to have you feel that we have served you with our hearts as well as our minds.

All surgeries have risks. Most are followed by a certain amount of swelling, soreness and pain. Follow your postoperative instructions to minimize these. If you can take Ibuprofen, we recommend taking it the night before your procedure as well as the morning of the procedure. The Ibuprofen will reduce your pain afterwards. Use a swallow or two of water to get the medicine down. Keep your head elevated for three days after a procedure to minimize the swelling.

All of your upper back teeth are near the sinuses and may injure the sinus during the extraction. If so, you will be given medication and instructions to aid the healing. Extremely rarely, a root may be pushed into the sinus and must be removed that day or later. Our judgment may dictate that a small root tip may be left if it would damage the sinus or a nerve. This root tip generally heals without event and will not require any further treatment.

Nerve damage occurs very rarely from a procedure. Unfortunately, the nerve to the lip, chin, cheek and tongue are near where we work. Again, it is extremely rare to have nerve damage. Less than one-half of one percent of patients will have permanent nerve damage.

Less than one percent of patients will experience an infection related to the procedure.

General anesthesia is a modern anesthesia technique that insures your comfort. It is very safe and we monitor you very carefully to make sure you stay healthy. The risks of anesthetic complication are very small, probably less than one in one hundred thousand.

Our patients generally do very well. Obviously not everyone has a perfect outcome, but it is rare that you will be back for problem with your surgery. If you have a problem, rest assured that we are here for you.

Sincerely,

Drs. McCurdy & Ellis

P. S. Be sure to follow the instructions on the back of this sheet. They are very important. If you have a question, call us we will be glad to help.