

Post operative instructions for implants and care until final healing occurs.

- Congratulations, you are now one of 3 million Americans who have implants and that number is growing by 500,000 a year.
- Today when we placed your implants we showed you that they were firmly fixed into the bone and you could hear the hollow sound when we tapped on your implant.
- Your goal is to keep them that way by following all of our instructions given verbally and again here in writing.
- Implants are either healing or nonhealing with many steps in between. Implants can suffer from peri-implantitis or destruction of the bone and soft tissues around the implant. This does not mean that your implant needs to be removed and replaced which can cause further complications. There are many successful treatments for peri-implantitis provided by Dr. Brower.
- Factors that are most important in making your implant heal and for long term success are quitting smoking, being a well controlled diabetic, seeing your physician for careful monitoring of any steroids/radiation/chemotherapy that is needed for your general care, and wearing of a mouth guard so there is not too much force applied to the implant. We always want you to wear a mouthguard, and if you have a denture we always want you to remove it when you could grind your teeth. Focusing closely or night time sleeping is the most often time for tooth grinding to occur which creates horizontal forces that the implant can not distribute causing failure.
- Weakening of the bone around the implant can happen through improper use or care by you! This can be a reversible condition with the proper treatment which we provide at our office. This includes antibiotic therapy into the area of the implant, surgical exposure of the implant to allow cleaning the implant directly, laser therapy to kill any bacteria associated with the destruction, and bone grafting necessary to replace the missing bone. These services may be necessary for you to maintain your implant, and are not part of the cost of your implant procedure. There is additional cost to treat problems with the implant unless you have the warranty that is offered with your implant. Bone grafting, skin grafting, and retreatment is all included with your warranty at no cost along with anything else needed if performed by Dr. Brower.
- If you have a denture with your implants do not allow any adhesive to get near the implants as this will cause failure. There will always be a period of healing

needed where the denture will be looser than you would like. Making it fit tighter during this period will cause implant failure since the bone has not fully grown on them.

- Long-term success of an implant depends on regular maintenance program.
During maintenance phase, peri-implant tissue should be evaluated for inflammation. Do not fail appointments or fail to return calls from our office. Radiographs and intraoral evaluation will give the status of bone around implants. These programs help in the long-term success of an implant. Radiographs and examinations taken after the initial implant placement for continuing evaluation are an additional fee and are not part of the cost of the implant.
- Cleaning the implants and the areas around them should be done more often and more meticulously than natural teeth. The slightest bit of food to include particles as small as pepper must be removed immediately and the tissue should be kept tight and bright pink with no redness or swelling. **An implant will fail every time if not kept absolutely clean and stable. Waterpiks, toothbrushing, and other aids which we showed you how to use in our office should be used multiple times throughout the day to make sure that implant failure does not occur.** You may call or visit at any time without an appointment for a refresher on how and when to use products to clean your implant(s)
- Failure to follow all the rules after implant placement will lower your success rate, or cause complete implant failure. We can not be responsible for failure associated with problems outside our control. **Please make every effort to do your best to keep your implant clean and stable.** Come and see us with no appointment if you worry or have any problems associated with your implant(s).
- By signing below I release Dr. Brower and their staff from any liability associated with implant failure and any costs for additional grafting, replacement implants, and any additional work that might be done by another provider following placement because I have agreed to follow these rules very specifically and to visit without notice to make sure that I am complying with their instructions. If I have any risk factors as discussed above I fully accept responsibility for increasing the risk of implant failure or implant loss because I have been informed of them and know that they are solely within my control.

Signed with copy to me: _____

Dated:

Doctor: _____