



Information after a Surgical Treatment

You have had surgical treatment. The possible complaints during the first week are:

1. Pain.
2. Difficulty swallowing and a limited mouth opening.
3. A general feeling of being ill including raised body temperature.
4. Swelling inside and outside the mouth. Especially during the morning this swelling may be significant.

Removal of the gauze / postoperative bleeding:

At the end of some treatments a gauze will be left on the wound. It is important you bite on the gauze for thirty minutes to stop the bleeding. If the wound starts to bleed again, you can fold a gauze, napkin, or handkerchief and bite on it for thirty minutes. It is normal to see some (old) blood in your saliva during the first days after the surgical treatment. If the bleeding does not stop, please call us.

Anesthesia:

The local anesthetic works for two to four hours. Until the anesthetic has completely worn off it's advisable to not eat or drink in order to avoid burn injury and bite wounds.

Pain:

After the anesthetic has worn off you can experience pain. This pain can last for a week. You were given a prescription for painkillers, use these according to instructions. If needed you can use also paracetamol.

Wound healing:

For proper wound healing it is necessary to:

1. Not rinse your mouth or spit during the first 24 hours after the treatment.
2. Brush your teeth normally, excluding the wound area.
3. Not smoke and don't use alcohol during the first week after the treatment.
4. Use the potentially prescribed mouth rinse, starting the day after the treatment.

Stiches:

Any stitches placed will dissolve automatically within one to three weeks, unless informed otherwise by the surgeon.

When to contact Haaglanden Clinics:

1. If the swelling increases after five days.
2. If you experience severe fever over 39 degrees Centigrade.
3. Postoperative bleeding that does not respond to biting on a gauze, napkin, or handkerchief for 30 minutes.
4. If you experience a permanent numb feeling of your chin, lip, or tongue.

To contact Haaglanden Clinics on Mondays to Fridays from 08:30-17:00, please call 070 221 21 21

For help outside our working hours, and in case of urgent complaints, you can call the general phone number of Haaglanden Medisch Centrum on 088 979 79 00.

Look for more information on our website: www.haaglandenclinics.nl.