



Tooth Extraction and Ridge Preservation

A ridge preservation procedure may be required to preserve the integrity of the dental arch after the extraction of a tooth.

When the tooth is removed, the socket is cleaned out and the bone surrounding the tooth is examined. If there is a deficiency in the bone, a graft may be required.

Benefits of Bone Grafting Include:

- Preserve the natural appearance of the jaw.
- Support adjacent teeth.
- Providing an appropriate base for dentures or bridges.
- Ridge conservation can be essential in providing significant bone height and width to support dental implants.

Bone Grafting Materials

All bone graft materials are effective; and therefore the decision of which to use is made by the patient and the surgeon. The options are as follows.

• Bone From The Patients Mouth:

In some cases, bone can be taken from the patient's mouth. The most common place to extract bone are where teeth are missing. An incision is made to retrieve the bone and the site is sutured to heal.

• Bone From a Donor:

Bone can be obtained through bone banks. Donors are screened and the bone undergoes a sterilization process. The advantage of this graft is that there is only one surgical site; no need for a second site.

• Other Types of Grafts:

Other types of grafting material may be used as a substitute for human bone. Examples include collagen, and other artificial substances. Although these materials will provide to be a viable solution for the surgery, they usually do not resorb and remain in the mouth for a long time (Other bone grafts using human bone tend to be replaced by the patients own bone over time).

