# Wisdom teeth removal and what should you expect after

Every wisdom tooth is different just like every patient is different, but the after effects of having your wisdom teeth removed will normally fall into one of  three categories depending on how much work has to be done to get the teeth out and the individuals responds to treatment.

It is possible to lever or elevate many teeth out. These patients will experience little or no bruising, pain or swelling and there are often no stitches. The extraction will take less than one minute. Most of these patients are back at work the next day. They will be on an antibiotic and using a mild painkiller occasionally and they will also be rinsing there mouth with warm salty water, but should be able to perform most routine daily tasks without any problems. Most wisdom teeth come out like this

The second group of patients will have had their teeth cut out. This takes about 7 minutes per tooth.This group of patients will be sore, bruised and swollen on there face for at least one week. They will need stronger painkillers and antibiotics and they will be rinsing their mouth frequently with salty water and Corsodyl mouth wash. These patients will normally need 4 or 5 days off work although some will need longer. Activity is only restricted by pain and sports should be avoided for about 2 weeks. About 30% of wisdom teeth come out like this

The third and thankfully a very small group about 5% are those who suffer complications such as dry socket and infection. Dry Socket is a severe pain after any dental extraction and lasts about 2 weeks. It is unpredictable and untreatable. Painkillers and antibiotics are in effective. You must simply keep your mouth clean with mouth washes and wait for the pain to resolve. You will be awake at night with pain and it is almost impossible to go to work.

Infection can occur after any dental extraction even if you follow all your instructions and take your antibiotics. It can be extremely painful and produce swelling both in your mouth and around your jaws. Infections will sometimes take 2 or 3 courses of antibiotics to clear and you will find it difficult to work for this period of time however most of the symptoms are controllable with painkillers, rest and fluids. As a rule of thumb when you feel able to return to work you are fit to return to work.

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