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## Second Stage Surgery – Exposure

The **exposure** of a dental implant is a very simple procedure that is carried out under local anaesthetic, during which the small area of gum covering the implant is modified to allow direct access to the implant.



A healing cap is screwed into the implant which shapes the gum around the implant to add to the final aesthetic appearance.

It is very important that the healing cap is kept clean.

Here are some tips to help:

- Sweep the healing cap for the first few days as shown, and brush all other teeth as firmly as you normally would. After 3 days brush the implant cap more firmly on all sides so the gum doesn't grow over it. You will not damage anything.
- After cleaning check the healing cap is clean and shiny in appearance, and if not, brush it more firmly.
- Bleeding from the gum around the healing cap is normal and expected in the first few days. Do not let this put you off, it will stop if the area is kept clean.
- Hot salt water rinses can help with healing. Use a teaspoon of salt dissolved in a clean tumbler of very warm water and hold the solution over the area for 1 minute. You should do this 3-4 times a day for 1 week. Corsodyl or Curasept mouthwash also helps.
- Occasionally a healing cap can loosen. If you notice a slight loosening it is fine for you to use a finger to re-seat this by turning the cap in a clockwise direction.
- If however you are having difficulty tightening the cap please call our reception team on 0151 605 1818 and we will arrange to re-tighten it for you.