

BISPHOSPHONATE MEDICATIONS CONSIDERATIONS

One of your treatment alternatives involves an endodontic surgical procedure or a tooth extraction. Since you have listed a Bisphosphonate medication as one you have taken, certain considerations should be understood by you.

Recent reports in scientific literature have indicated a connection between Bisphosphonate medications and a condition called Osteonecrosis of the Jaw, or destruction of the jaw bone of the mouth. The literature shows a very small percentage of patients taking these medications, usually for the prevention of osteoporosis, can develop this condition. In a small group of patients, those taking these drugs intravenously are at greater risk; those taking these medications orally have a greatly reduced risk.

It is impossible to determine your category of risk, however it is not practical to discontinue your bisphosphonate medication as its biologic half-life (the time it still remains in your system) is ten years. As in all cases, the patient, once informed must weigh the risks versus benefits of any procedure.

A Position Statement created by our specialty association, the American Association of Endodontists, is attached. You are encouraged to read it, evaluate its references, and ask any pertinent questions before signing the statement below.

I have received and read the AAE Position Statement on Endodontic Implications of Bisphosphonate-Associated Osteonecrosis of the Jaws. I understand the risks, benefits and alternatives of the procedure called _____, recommended as a treatment alternative for me, and give Dr. _____ permission to proceed with the above listed clinical procedure.

Signed _____