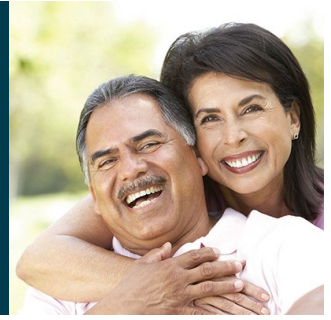


Cardiovascular Surgery

Heart Valves and Dental Work



Now that you have had a heart valve replaced or repaired using prosthetic material. We recommend not having any *elective* dental work done for **6 months** following valve surgery.

Anytime you have dental procedures that involve manipulation of gingival tissue or the periapical region of teeth or perforation of the oral mucosa, *including getting your teeth cleaned*, you will need **pre-procedure antibiotics** to protect your heart valve from getting infected by germs from your mouth that are released into your blood stream with dental work.

What antibiotic should you take? The American Heart Association and the American Dental Association have agreed on the following regimen for single dosing 30-60 minutes before dental procedures:

Situation	Agent	Adult Dose
Oral use, no allergy	Amoxicillin	500 mg x 4 pills
Unable to take oral medication	Ampicillin	2g IM or IV
	Cefazolin or Ceftriaxone	1g IM or IV
Oral use, but allergic to penicillin or ampicillin	Cephalexin	2g
	Clindamycin	600mg
	Azithromycin or Clarithromycin	500mg
Unable to take oral medication AND allergic to penicillin or ampicillin	Cefazolin or ceftriaxone	1g IM or IV
	Clindamycin	600mg IM or IV

Your dentist should give you the prescription for oral antibiotics or arrange for other administration if required, but if for some reason the dentist is unable to do so after you ask them, you may call our office at 941-917-8791.