



Complications in sinus lift surgery

Sinus lift surgery is safe in a high percentage, but has a minimal potential of complications which are:

- **Infections:** All surgery can promote the onset of infection. In the mouth, because the abundant bacterial flora, the risk is higher. Therefore it is very important that the patient take the time to maintain the oral cavity clean. Some infections may even require hospitalization for treatment.
- **Bleeding:** Subsequent abnormal bleeding after surgery may occur immediately or days after surgery. It is normal for some bleeding in the early hours, but not abundant.
- **Sinus membrane rupture:** during surgery, the sinus membrane may suffer rupture. If this is more than 5 mm's of diameter, the surgery will have to be aborted. The surgery can be tried again 4 months after.
- **Excessive resorption of bone graft:** in few cases, the body reabsorbs the graft in such a high quantity that the viable bone integrated might be too low. In this case, a new graft will have to be done.
- **Ulcers:** Ulcers may appear in the area where the surgery was done or the anesthesia injected. They are very painful for 5 to 10 days.
- **Allergies:** Allergic reactions may occur during or after surgery. Local anesthesia during surgery or medications given after surgery are usually responsible. Most allergies can be treated with antihistamines and steroidal anti-inflammatories in an outpatient setting. But there will be some cases requiring hospitalization.

Therefore, we intervene only when it's clear that the benefits outweigh the risks. We apply a thorough and effective as possible surgical protocol to avoid these complications. Nevertheless, we are very aware of the possible appearance of complications to treat them opportunely. It is important that the patient understands that surgery is not an exact science in which procedures can ensure without any complications. The costs of treating these complications are beyond the budget for surgery.