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Why was I treated with Arestin?

Like many people, you suffer from gum disease (periodontitis), and your dental professional has treated your gums with an antibiotic called Arestin.

Arestin is a prescription drug approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the treatment of gum disease after a deep cleaning procedure known as scaling and root planning (SRP).

Arestin uses unique microsphere technology to deliver the antibiotic directly to the infected areas in your gums. The microspheres then gradually release the antibiotic, allowing it to work for over 14 days so that it can kill the infection more effectively and help heal your gums.

To help Arestin fight the infection in your gums, it is important to follow the "after treatment" tips listed.

To achieve the best results, follow the instructions given by your dental professional. You will find these guidelines useful:

1. Avoid touching treated areas.
2. Wait 12 hours after your treatment before brushing teeth.
3. Wait 10 days before using floss, toothpicks, or other devices designed to clean between teeth.
4. Avoid foods for 1 week that could hurt your gums.

Gum disease can recur and needs to be checked regularly. Be sure to return for your follow-up appointments.

Arestin contains minocycline, a tetracycline derivative, and therefore should not be used in children and in pregnant or nursing women. The use of drugs of the tetracycline class during tooth development may cause permanent discoloration of the teeth.