

# **A COMPARISON OF DICLOFENAC WITH AND WITHOUT SINGLE-DOSE INTRAVENOUS STEROID IN THIRD MOLAR SURGERY**



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***Dr. Nagarajappa D.***

**Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery  
S.D.M. College of Dental Sciences & Hospital,  
Dharwad.**

Surgical extraction of impacted molars is considered as one of the routine procedures in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

In spite of meticulously planned and executed surgical procedures, patients complain of pain, swelling and limitation in mouth opening which makes it even more frustrating and annoying for both the patient and the surgeon. These complications, which are due to the inflammatory response following third molar surgery, can affect the patient's daily life.

Various studies have been done with the use of a wide range of drugs like antihistamines, steroids, enzymes and antibiotics. Drains, modified surgical techniques, laser therapy and even homeopathic systems of medicine have been reported to reduce the post-operative sequelae of third molar surgery.

Increased knowledge of the mechanism of pain and better understanding of the role of inflammation and its mediators resulted in effective use of new means of controlling post-operative pain.

Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory analgesics (NSAIDs) have been used routinely to treat post-operative pain. However, in third molar surgery, the efficacy of opioids seems to be low, therefore the use of NSAIDs became a routine.