



Dental Emergencies

If possible, for any dental problem, the first step is to call our office. If you call after business hours, we will provide information on how to reach the doctor on call. If you are unable to reach us or are out of the area, the hospital emergency room can offer first-response assistance in dental emergency situations.

Common Emergencies include:

Baby Tooth knocked out: Call our office for instructions.

Permanent Tooth knocked out: If your child's permanent tooth is knocked out, speed in response is important. Find the tooth and rinse it gently in cool water – do not scrub the tooth or use soap or other chemicals. Try to hold it by the crown and not the root tip.

If possible, try to place the tooth back in the socket and have the child hold it in place with clean gauze or wash cloth, or, tuck in their cheek. If this is not possible, place the tooth in a clean container and moisten it with saliva, milk, or water. Call our office immediately – quick response can sometimes save a tooth!

If the tooth is fractured or chipped – try to save the tooth fragment, and have the child rinse with cold water and apply a cold compress to minimize swelling.

Toothache: Rinse with water to help ease discomfort. Apply a cold compress – do not apply heat or aspirin. Call our office immediately. You may want to take an over-the-counter pain reliever until your appointment.

Don't postpone treatment. "Twinges" of tooth pain or toothaches that subside and reoccur can be misleading – any dental pain is an indication of an underlying problem and can lead to serious infection if it is not addressed promptly.

Blow to head or Jaw Fracture – Go immediately to the emergency room. Head injuries can be life-threatening.

Preventing Dental Injuries and Emergencies – Dental trauma injuries can be reduced or prevented through the use of mouth guards for sports and car seats for young children and seatbelts for older children and adults.

Please do not hesitate to call our office with any concerns that you may have about your dental health.

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