

Emergency Care Tips

Toothache: Clean the area around the sore tooth thoroughly. Rinse the mouth vigorously with warm salt water or use dental floss to dislodge trapped food or debris. **DO NOT** place aspirin on the gum or on the aching tooth. If face is swollen, apply a cold compress. Take acetaminophen for pain and see a dentist as soon as possible.

Cut or Bitten Tongue, Lip, or Cheek: Apply ice to bruised area(s). If there is bleeding, apply firm but gentle pressure with a clean gauze or cloth. If bleeding does not stop after 15 minutes or it cannot be controlled by simple pressure, go to a hospital emergency room.

Knocked Out Permanent Tooth: Find the tooth. Handle the tooth by the top (crown), not the root portion. You may rinse the tooth, but do not clean or handle the tooth unnecessarily. Try to reinsert it in its socket. Hold the tooth in place by biting on a clean gauze or cloth. If you cannot reinsert the tooth, transport the tooth in a cup containing milk or water. See a dentist **IMMEDIATELY!** Time is a critical factor in saving the tooth.

Broken Braces and Wires: If a broken appliance can be removed easily, take it out. If it cannot, cover the sharp or protruding portion with cotton balls, gauze or chewing gum. If a wire is stuck in the gums, cheek or tongue, **DO NOT** remove it. Go to a dentist immediately. Loose or broken appliances that do not bother you don't usually require emergency attention.

Broken Tooth: Rinse dirt from the injured area with warm water. Place cold compresses over the face in the area of the injury. Locate and save any broken tooth fragments. Immediate dental attention is necessary.

Possible Broken Jaw: If a fractured jaw is suspected, try to keep the jaws from moving by using a towel, tie or handkerchief, and then go to the nearest hospital emergency room.

Bleeding After Baby Tooth Falls Out: Fold and pack a clean gauze over the bleeding area. Have the child bite on the gauze with pressure for 15 minutes. This may be repeated once; if bleeding persists, see a dentist.

If you have ANY questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call the office. If it is after normal business hours, leave a message and it will be immediately relayed to Dr. Othman who will then return your call.