

Tooth Injury

Definition

- Injury to a tooth

Health Information

Types of Tooth Injuries

- Loosened tooth - May bleed a little from the gums. Usually tightens up on its own.
- Displaced tooth (usually pushed inward)
- Chipped or fractured tooth
- Avulsed (knocked out) tooth - a dental emergency for permanent teeth

Symptoms

- The main symptom is pain.
- Minor bleeding from the gums may occur.

Prevention

- Careful adult supervision of young children
- Education of older children about high risk behaviors

Care Advice

1. **Cold:**
 - For pain, put a piece of ice or a popsicle on the injured gum.
 - Another option: put a cold pack on the cheek.
 - Do this for 20 minutes.
2. **Pain Medicine:**
 - To help with the pain, give acetaminophen (such as Tylenol) or ibuprofen. Use as needed.
3. **Soft Diet:**
 - For any loose teeth, offer a soft diet.
 - Avoid foods that need much chewing.
 - You can go back to a normal diet after 3 days. By then, the tooth should be tightened up.
4. **What to Expect:**
 - Tooth pain most often goes away in 2 or 3 days.

Call Your Doctor If

- Pain becomes severe
- Cold fluids cause tooth pain
- You think your child needs to be seen
- Your child becomes worse
- Note: If your child has a dentist, call them instead of your doctor.

Pediatric Care Advice

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