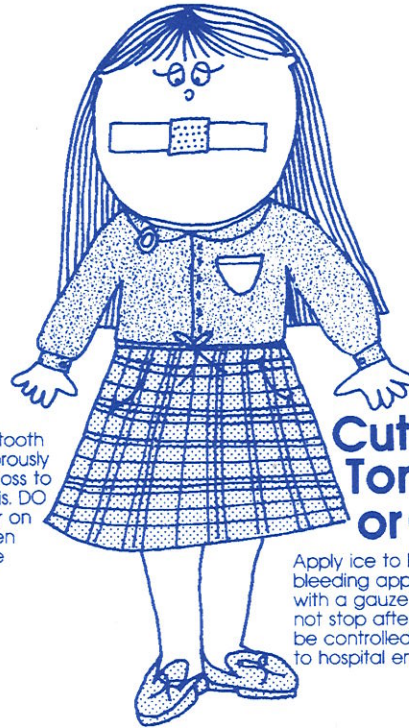


First Aid for Dental Emergencies



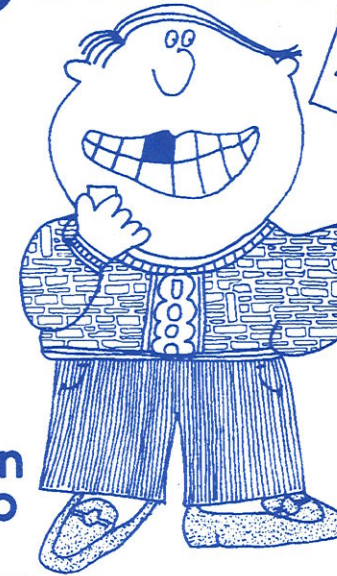
Toothache

Clean the area of the affected tooth thoroughly. Rinse the mouth vigorously with warm water or use dental floss to dislodge impacted food or debris. DO NOT place aspirin on the gum or on the aching tooth. If face is swollen apply cold compresses. Take the child to a dentist.



Cut or Bitten Tongue, Lip or Cheek

Apply ice to bruised areas. If there is bleeding apply firm but gentle pressure with a gauze or cloth. If bleeding does not stop after 15 minutes or it cannot be controlled by simple pressure, take to hospital emergency room.



1. Remain Calm
2. Quick Action
3. Keep Moist
4. See Dentist

Knocked Out Permanent Tooth

Find the tooth. Handle the tooth by the crown, not the root portion. You may rinse the tooth but DO NOT clean or handle the tooth unnecessarily. Inspect the tooth for fractures. If it is sound, try to reinsert it in its socket. Have the patient hold the tooth in place by biting on a gauze. If you cannot reinsert the tooth, transport the tooth in a cup containing the patient's saliva or water. The tooth may also be carried in the patient's mouth. The patient must 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 soft chewing gum. If a wire is stuck in the gum, cheek or tongue, DO NOT remove it. Take the patient to a dentist immediately. Asymptomatic loose or broken appliances do not usually require emergency attention.



Other Emergency Conditions:

Possible Fractured Jaw If a fractured jaw is suspected, try to immobilize the jaws by using a towel, tie, or handkerchief, and take the patient 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.

Cold/Canker Sores Many children occasionally suffer from "cold or canker" sores. Usually over-the-counter preparations give symptomatic relief. Because many serious systemic and oral diseases mimic or begin as sores, it is important to have a dental evaluation if these sores persist.



Broken Tooth

Rinse dirt from 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.



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