

## DENTAL EMERGENCY FIRST AID

Attempt to calm the child. All incidents should be handled quietly and calmly; a panicked child is likely to create problems for treatment and may cause further trauma.

1. If the child is bleeding (REMEMBER TO WEAR GLOVES):
  - A. Stop bleeding by applying pressure to the area
  - B. Wash the affected area with clean cool water
  - C. Have child bite down on sterile gauze
  - D. Apply ice, wrapped in clean cloth, for swelling
2. If tooth is knocked out, chipped, broken or loose:
  - A. Staff should calm the child
  - B. Put tooth in glass of tap water or milk
  - C. If injured area is dirty, clean gently
  - D. Place cold compress on the face, in the injured area to limit swelling
  - E. Notify parent/guardian & immediately take the child to dentist
  - F. REMEMBER, ACT QUICKLY, TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE!
3. If teeth are loosened in an accident:
  - A. Rinse out the child's mouth
  - B. Do not attempt to move the tooth or jaw
  - C. Notify parent/guardian & take child immediately to dentist
4. If tooth is knocked into gums:
  - A. Do not attempt to free or pull on the tooth
  - B. Rinse out the child's mouth
  - C. Notify parent/guardian & take child immediately to the dentist
5. If injury to tongue, cheeks or lips:
  - A. Rinse affected area with clean water
  - B. Apply ice wrapped in clean cloth to control swelling
  - C. Notify parent/guardian & take child to dentist or physician if bleeding continues or the wound is large
6. Swelling from infection:
  - A. Notify parent/guardian; have them take child to dentist or physician
7. Toothache:
  - A. Cold water held in mouth will help the pain some
  - B. Notify parent/guardian; have them take child to dentist
8. In the event of any other soft tissue injury, as in the case where the tongue or lips becomes stuck to an object and the tissue tears:
  - A. Stop the bleeding (**remember to wear gloves!**)
  - B. Cover the affected area with sterile pad
  - C. Notify parent/guardian, & take the child immediately to the physician