

DENTAL ACCIDENT PROCEDURE

A dental emergency may occur whilst a child is being educated and cared for by the Service from a fall or collision with another child or a knock to the face. Knowing the correct first aid may save the tooth.

Working in conjunction with the *Dental Health Policy*, this procedure provides detailed steps for educators to follow in the event of a dental accident at the service.

Education and Care Services National Law or Regulations (R. 78 and 87) NQS QA 2: Element 2.1.2 and 2.1.3 Health practices and procedures

Related Policies: Dental Health Policy, Administration of First Aid Policy and Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Policy

| SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF A MOUTH/TOOTH INJURY | | |
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| The child may have bleeding from the mouth, lips or gums Pain around the mouth Loose or broken tooth (from impact) Swelling of lips or jaw Inability to open or close their mouth/jaw | | |
| PROCEDURE FOR MOUTH OR DENTAL INJURY | | |
| 1 | Educators will respond to the child immediately and implement first aid procedures while remaining calm | |
| 2 | Educators will ensure the safety of themselves and others and implement first aid following the DRSABCD | |
| 2 | Call an ambulance immediately if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the child is having trouble breathing or there is a lot of blood going down the throat, or if there is swelling of the tongue or throat that could affect breathing | |
| 3 | If there is a lot of blood in the mouth/gum, apply firm but gentle pressure to stem bleeding | |
| 4 | An educator will try to find the tooth and place in a container. A dental professional may want to see the tooth and/or the tooth fragment(s). | |
| 5 | It is vital to know if the tooth or tooth fragment(s) has been inhaled. Inhaled teeth are a medical emergency, and the child MUST be taken immediately to the Emergency Department of a hospital for a check-up and a possible chest x-ray | |
| 6 | Educators are to gently place the tooth or tooth fragments in milk or saline to avoid dehydrating and damaging the delicate cells on the root | |
| 7 | The Nominated Supervisor or educator will notify the parent or emergency contact to collect the child as soon as possible to seek dental or medical advice as soon as possible | |

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| 8 | Educators will accurately document the child's symptoms on the <i>Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Record</i> | |
| 9 | If emergency services attend, the Director/Nominated Supervisor will ensure the regulatory authority are notified as soon as possible and within 24 hours of the injury, illness or trauma. | |