# Dental Emergency Guidelines

A dental emergency is any issue involving the teeth, gums, or supporting tissues that requires immediate treatment to prevent complications or further damage. Common examples include severe toothaches, bleeding gums, a dislodged crown, or a knocked-out tooth.

## Emergency Conditions

* • Severe bleeding that won’t stop.
* • Swelling that is significant and increasing.
* • Injuries to the jaw or teeth, such as a knocked out secondary tooth, broken jaw.
* • Severe dental infection threatening general health, especially in a patient with other significant medical conditions.
* • A locked jaw (trismus).

## Urgent Conditions

* • Infections which have not spread beyond the tooth, gums, or lower face.
* • Severe dental or facial pain that cannot be managed by the patient using non-prescription or previously prescribed medication.
* • Broken tooth, or teeth, causing pain as the sensitive pulp is exposed.

Please remember, though, to be very careful with online remedies and non-prescription drugs. It’s important not to damage your teeth, mouth or your general health further. A painkiller only disguises the problem and is not a long term solution.  
Avoid very hot, cold, hard, sweet, and spicy food that may aggravate the pain.

## Routine Conditions

* • Mild or moderate pain that responds to available pain-relief medication.
* • Bleeding or swelling caused by trauma that is under control.
* • Post-extraction bleeding that the patient is able to manage using self-help measures.
* • Loose or displaced crowns, bridges or veneers.
* • Broken or loose-fitting dentures, bridges and other appliances.
* • Fractured posts.
* • Lost, loose or broken fillings.
* • Treatments normally associated with routine dental care, such as a chipped tooth.
* • Bleeding gums.