ORAL HEALTH EMERGENCIES IN THE MEDICAL OFFICE

American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) Guidelines

Primary Teeth

- A primary (baby) tooth is knocked out or loosened:
 - Do not re-implant the tooth (no need to look for it!) to avoid potential damage to the permanent tooth
 - Comfort the child
 - Rinse the mouth with water
 - Apply cool compresses
 - Call the dentist as soon as possible
- Quick action can lessen a child's discomfort and prevent infection and possible defects on the permanent tooth!

Permanent Teeth

- A permanent tooth is knocked out:
 - Find the tooth
 - Rinse it gently in cool water
 - Do not touch the root
 - Do not scrub it or use soap
 - Replace the tooth in the socket
 - Hold it there with a clean gauze or washcloth
 - If unable to place tooth in socket, put it in a clean container with cool milk or child's saliva, but NOT in WATER
 - Call and take child and tooth to the dental office immediately or call if it's after hours









ORAL HEALTH **EMERGENCIES** IN THE MEDICAL OFFICE

Chipped or Broken Tooth

- Contact your dentist immediately. Fast action can save the tooth, prevent infection, and reduce need for extensive dental treatment
- Rinse the mouth with water and apply cold compresses to reduce swelling
- If a parent can find the broken tooth fragment, take it to the dentist keep it moist with water

Additional HTHC Suggestions

Oral Lacerations

- Most do not need repair and heal on their own
- Refer if wound is:
 - Deep enough to trap food particles
 - >2 cm in length
 - A flap of tissue between the occlusal surfaces of the teeth
 - Crossing the vermillion border of the lip needs suture
- Prophylactic abx (amoxicillin, keflex) if gaping
- Confirm tetanus status
- Assure that there is no potential airway compromises or hemorrhage

Other Emergency Consultation

- Extrusion out of socket >3 mm or interfering with bite
- Laterally luxated (displaced) teeth that interfere with bite
- Intruded primary teeth in the socket
- Suspected jaw fracture
- Any injury if embedded tooth fragments are suspected, especially in the lip



