

Tips for Triageing Patients

1. Tooth Pain

A. No Swelling – Mild to moderate pain

Recommendations:

OTC Pain Medication – If patient can take Ibuprofen and Acetaminophen:

400-600mg Ibuprofen/1000mg Acetaminophen together every 6 hours

If pain not reduced and/or swelling – call us for reevaluation, patient will likely need to be seen

B. No swelling – Pain not reduced by OTC analgesics

Recommendations:

Patient will likely need to be seen

C. Swelling

Recommendations:

Advise warm salt water rinses, especially if swelling is hard (non-fluctuant). Patient will likely need to be seen.

2. Fractured tooth/lost filling/lost crown/bridge

A. Pain not related to likely irreversible pulpitis, i.e. sensitivity, sharp area, etc.

Recommendations:

Use OTC temporary filling material. Examples:



Sponsored ⓘ
DenTek Temparin Max Lost Filling and Loose Cap Repair Kit, 13+ Repairs, 0.09 Ounces (1-Pack)
★★★★☆ ~ 96
\$7¹¹
FREE Shipping
FSA or HSA eligible



Sponsored ⓘ
Dentemp Repair Lost Fillings & Loose Caps Max Strength (6 Pack)
★★★★☆ ~ 11
\$19⁸⁷ (\$0.28/Count)
FREE Shipping
FSA or HSA eligible



Sponsored ⓘ
DenTek Temparin Max Lost Cap and Filling Repair kit 13+ Repairs 0.09 Ounce (Value Pack of 3)
★★★★☆ ~ 13
\$13¹² (\$4.37/Count)
FREE Shipping
FSA or HSA eligible



3. Broken/ill-fitting denture

A. Small fracture/clean break/can seat denture in mouth

Recommendations:

Use OTC denture repair/reline kit for example:



D.O.C. Repair-It Advanced Formula
Denture Repair Kit 3 ea

★★★★☆ ~ 1,116

\$9⁹⁸ (\$30.24/Ounce)

FREE Shipping

Only 2 left in stock - order soon.

More Buying Choices

\$4.99 (4 new offers)

FSA or HSA eligible



Reline-It Advanced Denture Reliner
Kit for Both Upper & Lower
Dentures, Easy Application, 2 Soft
Relines

★★★★☆ ~ 396

\$5²⁴ (\$2.62/Count)

✓prime Get it as soon as Tue, Mar 31

FREE Shipping on orders over \$25
shipped by Amazon

FSA or HSA eligible



Temporary Teeth Repair Kit,
Moldable False Teeth, Thermal
Fitting Beads for Snap On Instant
and Confident Smile, Denture...

★★★★☆ ~ 44

\$9⁹⁹

✓prime

FREE Shipping on orders over \$25
shipped by Amazon

Trauma

A. Mild trauma with minimal soft/hard tissue damage

Recommendation:

Evaluate patient to determine no significant injuries and have patient monitor for any signs/symptoms of infection or more severe issues (i.e. fractures, bleeding, etc.)

B. Moderate to severe trauma

Recommendation:

Patient will likely need to be seen.

Soft Tissue Pain

A. Tooth eruption/exfoliation pain

Recommendation:



HealthPartners[®] Dental

OTC topical agents and/or OTC analgesics examples:



Children's Advil Suspension (4 fl. oz, White Grape-Flavored), 100mg Ibuprofen Fever Reducer/Pain Reliever, Dye-Free, Liquid Pain...



Infants' Tylenol Acetaminophen Liquid Medicine, Cherry, 2 fl. oz

★★★★☆ ~ 610



Orajel Baby Daytime & Nighttime Non-medicated Cooling Gels for...

B. Adult Soft Tissue Pain i.e. gingival pain, aphthous ulcers etc.

Recommendation:

If no swelling, use OTC topical agents. Examples:



Orajel 4X Medicated For Toothache & Gum Gel, .25OZ

★★★★☆ ~ 97

\$6⁵³ (\$26.12/Ounce) ~~\$9.99~~

FREE Shipping on orders over \$25 shipped by Amazon
In stock on May 7, 2020.



Orajel 3X Medicated For All Mouth Sores Gel .42 OZ

★★★★☆ ~ 160

\$6¹⁷ (\$14.69/Ounce) ~~\$9.99~~

fresh FREE delivery with Prime



Orajel Severe Triple Medicated Instant Pain Relief 0.25 Ounce Gel (7ml) (2 Pack)

★★★★☆ ~ 57

\$20¹⁵

\$3.99 shipping



Orajel Touch-Free Cold Sore Patented Treatment .08 OZ

★★★★☆ ~ 238

\$13³⁶ (\$167.00/Fl Oz)

fresh FREE delivery with Prime

Post Extraction/Surgical Procedure

A. Mild-moderate discomfort, minimal swelling

Recommendation:

If extraction was fairly recent, advise warm saline rinses and OTC analgesics. If extraction was more than 1 week ago and/or pain has suddenly increased, patient will likely need to be seen.

B. Severe pain and/or swelling, especially in area of lymph nodes

Recommendation:

If patient is stable, i.e. no problems swallowing or breathing, consider OTC analgesics and warm saline rinses. If lymph node swelling, consider antibiotics. If patient not seen, they should be called for follow up over the next few days to see if symptoms improve, otherwise patient will likely need to be seen.

Antibiotic Use

Under normal circumstances we try to restrict the use of antibiotics to only those times when it is absolutely necessary. Given the goal is to try and keep people out of the dental office, and out of the emergency room, we will likely need to prescribe more antibiotics than usual. If there is a swelling and/or lymphadenopathy then antibiotics are clearly indicated. You might also consider antibiotics in cases of pain that does not respond to analgesics and/or longstanding tooth pain without swelling as those cases might have a higher likelihood of progression to infection.