An Overview of Dental Trauma

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Description

Dental trauma is physical damage to the teeth, gums, alveolar bone (the bone that holds the cavity of the teeth), or the soft tissues of the mouth, including the lips and tongue. There are several types of injuries that fall into the dental trauma category. Dental trauma occurs when something affects the inside of the mouth, lips, teeth, gums, tongue, or jawbone. Most commonly, Thornton dentists see tooth trauma after a physical accident such as Sports injuries, car accidents, physical changes or falls. Dental trauma can be very serious and should always be treated by a dentist. However, there are times when tooth trauma is not apparent. When this happens, it can be left untreated and quickly progress to more serious problems.

Signs and Symptoms

Fractures: Fractures of teeth and jawbones can occur after an incident. Fractures are so small that they can only be seen by x-ray. They also differ in the depth at which they occur. Superficial fractures can occur on the surface of teeth and bones and cause few problems. However, deeper fractures can make teeth more susceptible to bacteria, fragile, and more sensitive to heat and cold. If you suddenly have one or more sensitive teeth after an accident, you may have a broken tooth. Deep fractures of the jawbone can cause other serious problems, including TMJ and tooth loss.

Tooth displacement: It is another common symptom of tooth trauma can be loose teeth or permanent teeth knocked out of a socket.

Ear pain and dizziness: patients are often surprised to find that sudden and painful earache is the result of tooth trauma along the jawbone.

Diagnosis

Your doctor will examine your mouth and ask how you were injured. He or she asks about your symptoms. Tell your doctor if you have had surgery or other treatment on your mouth. An x-ray may be needed to check for damage to the bones of the face. Treatment depends on the type of tooth trauma you have. Teeth that move slightly can be healed naturally. You may also need the following:

• Medications may be given to relieve pain or prevent infection.

Tetanus vaccination may be required to prevent bacteria from entering the wound. This may be necessary if you cut your mouth or gums with metal.

- Stitches may be needed to close the wound on the mouth.
- Surgery may be required to repair jaw teeth and fractures.

Treatment

Treatment depends on the type of trauma. Mouth and tooth damage should be assessed by a dentist, especially if one or more teeth are loose or permanently damaged. In some cases, if a tooth is visibly damaged, the adjacent tooth may also be injured and may not be visible unless detected by a dental examination.

For missing or broken teeth, tooth colour padding may be recommended to replace the lost tooth area. If a significant portion of the crown is lost, an artificial crown or cap can be provided instead.

• If the pulp is exposed, root canal treatment may be required.

• Molar damage (such as a fracture of the cusp) may require root canal treatment and complete crown coverage.

• For more serious injuries such as torn teeth, it may be necessary to completely remove the teeth.

• Dislocated (dislocated) teeth need to be stabilized by the dentist and may require root canal treatment.

• Children under the age of 12 may not need root canal treatment because their teeth are still developed and may heal themselves. The dentist will carefully monitor them to determine if additional treatment is needed.

• Knocked out teeth can be replanted with quick action. You should see your dentist or endodontic immediately. If you receive treatment within 3040 minutes, you are more likely to save your teeth. If it is longer than this, the odds will be significantly reduced. If you find a tooth, treat it gently with a crown. Do not touch the roots. The dentist puts it back in the socket and places the stabilizing sprint for a few weeks. After that, a root canal may be needed.

• In some cases, for example, if a knocked out tooth is not found or is not treated early enough, you can discuss other treatment options to replace the tooth.

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