

SNOWFLAKE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #5 HEALTH SERVICES

PROCEDURE FOR TREATMENT OF DENTAL EMERGENCIES

1. **TOOTH INJURIES** (utilization of gloves with blood or body fluid)
 - a. Check the child's mouth for any missing teeth, loose teeth, or parts of teeth.
 - b. If tooth is loose, have the child bite down on a piece of gauze to keep the tooth in place and call the child's parent/guardian or dentist.
 - c. If a tooth is chipped, gently clean the injured area and call the child's parent/guardian or dentist.
 - d. If the child has lost a permanent tooth, rinse the tooth in water, put the tooth in a cup of milk, and immediately take the child and the tooth to a dentist or emergency department.
 - e. Apply pressure with gauze to stop any bleeding at the tooth socket.
 - f. Tell the child's parent/guardian to talk with a dentist if a child's tooth changes color after an injury.
 - g. **DO NOT** hold the tooth by the root or try to reinsert the tooth.

2. **FIRST AID FOR ORTHODONTIC PROBLEMS** (Braces and Retainers)
 - a. If a wire is causing irritation, cover end of the wire with beeswax or a piece of gauze until child can be seen by a dentist.
 - b. If a wire is embedded in the cheek, tongue, or gum tissue, do **NOT** attempt to remove it. **CALL PARENT** to take child to dentist immediately.
 - c. If an appliance becomes loose or a piece of it breaks off, **CONTACT PARENT** and advise to take child and the appliance to the dentist as soon as possible.

3. **FIRST AID FOR BITTEN TONGUE OR LIP;**
 - a. Apply direct pressure to the bleeding area with a clean cloth or gauze. If swelling is present, apply cold compress. If bleeding does not stop, **CALL PARENT** or 911 (depending on severity).

4. **FOLLOW-UP PROCEDURE**
 - a. Complete an Accident Report form for any significant accidental dental injury and retain Health Office copy in Accident Report File.