



# South Bay

## KIDS DENTISTRY

February is  
Children's  
Dental Health  
Month!

### Dr. Pang's Guide to Pediatric Dental Emergencies

#### **TOOTHACHE**

Clean the area around the sore tooth thoroughly. Rinse the mouth thoroughly with warm salt water or use dental floss to dislodge trapped food or debris. If the pain still exists, contact your child's dentist. DO NOT place aspirin on the gum or aching tooth. If the face is swollen, apply cold compresses and contact your pediatric dentist immediately.

#### **KNOCKED OUT PERMANENT TOOTH**

Find the tooth. Handle the tooth by the top (crown), not the root portion. You may rinse the tooth but DO NOT clean, scrub, or handle the tooth unnecessarily. Try to reinsert it in its socket. Have your child hold the tooth in place by biting on a gauze or clean cloth. If you cannot reinsert the tooth, transport the tooth in a cup containing the patient's saliva or milk, NOT water. Time is a critical factor in saving the tooth therefore your child must see a dentist IMMEDIATELY!

#### **KNOCKED OUT BABY TOOTH**

Contact your pediatric dentist. Unlike with a permanent tooth, the baby tooth should not be replanted due to possible damage to the developing permanent tooth. In most cases, no treatment is necessary.

#### **CHIPPED/FRACTURED PERMANENT TOOTH**

Time is a critical factor, contact your pediatric dentist immediately so as to reduce the chance for infection or the need for extensive dental treatment in the future. Rinse the mouth with water and apply a cold compress to reduce swelling. If you can find the broken tooth piece, bring it with you to the dentist.

#### **CUT OR BITTEN TONGUE, LIP OR CHEEK**

Apply ice to bruised areas. If there is bleeding, apply firm but gentle pressure with gauze or cloth. If bleeding does not stop after 15 minutes or it cannot be controlled by simple pressure, take your child to a hospital emergency room.

#### **BLEEDING AFTER BABY TOOTH FALLS**

Fold and pack a clean gauze or cloth over the bleeding area. Have your child bite on the gauze with pressure for 15 minutes. This may be repeated once. If bleeding persists, see a pediatric dentist.

#### **COLD/CANKER SORES**

Many children occasionally suffer from "cold" or "canker sores. Usually over-the-counter preparations give relief such as "Colgate Peroxyl Rinse." Because some serious diseases may begin as sores, it is important to have a dental evaluation if these sores persist.

Please call our office at (408) 866-8883 or email us at  
[hello@southbaykidsdentistry.com](mailto:hello@southbaykidsdentistry.com) to set up an appointment.  
Learn more at [www.southbaykidsdentistry.com](http://www.southbaykidsdentistry.com).