

Brief instructions on what to do in the case of trauma to the front teeth



Barley Mow **Dental Care**

If it is during a working day call us and we will arrange an urgent appointment for the damage to be assessed and treatment started.

If any adult teeth have been knocked out rinse them gently under running water (do not scrub) if they are contaminated and if possible replace them in their socket.

If this isn't possible keep them under the tongue, or in a glass of milk, or damp in cling film.

Baby teeth, especially in children aged over 5 are often due to come out soon, and can suffer badly from quite minor trauma. Do not try to reposition them, and if they are very loose consider removing them yourself.

Time is of the essence as the outlook for knocked out teeth gets poorer quite rapidly after 30 minutes has elapsed. The cells on the outside of the usually unseen part of the tooth are very delicate.

Permanent teeth that have been moved in their sockets need to be repositioned as soon as possible.

Even if they don't appear to have been moved it is wise to get the situation assessed as the nerves of the teeth can be affected by relatively minor blows and may need further treatment.

If part of the tooth has been chipped off them locate it if possible and bring it with you. It is possible today to successfully treat even quite badly damaged teeth.

If it looks really bad, with displaced or very loose teeth, possible fracturing of the jaws or severe laceration of the lips or if it is late at night then go immediately to your local casualty department, ideally one with an Oral Surgery Department.
Locally this is Cheltenham/Gloucester, Swindon GWH or Bath RUH.