

Dental emergencies and urgent treatments

During the pandemic, it is recommended that dental procedures be restricted to emergency and urgent procedures.



Recommendations for dental care are based on the current science with the wellbeing and safety of dental professionals and their patients being first and foremost.

Dental Professionals:

Before scheduling an in-office visit, evaluate your patient's general health, exposure risk and need for dental treatment.

What constitutes a dental emergency

Potential life-threatening events that require immediate attention, including:

1.



Uncontrolled bleeding

2.



Intraoral or extraoral infection with swelling

3.



Trauma involving facial bones

What constitutes a dental urgency

The focus of dental urgency is on relief of intense pain or infection.

The recommendation is that procedures performed should be minimally invasive.

1. Severe dental pain
2. Pericoronitis
3. Post-operative osteitis, dry socket dressing changes
4. Localized infection resulting pain and swelling
5. Tooth fracture with pain and/or trauma in soft tissues
6. Dental trauma with avulsion/luxation
7. Dental treatment required prior to critical medical procedures
8. Final crown/bridge cementation if the temporary restoration is lost, broken or causing gingival irritation
9. Biopsy of abnormal tissue
10. Dental caries or defective restorations causing pain
11. Suture removal
12. Denture adjustments or repairs when function is impeded

Some examples



Dental caries or defective restorations causing pain



Adjustment or repair of dental prosthesis that harms function



Snipping or adjustment of an orthodontic wire or appliances piercing or ulcerating the oral mucosa

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This infographic can be updated accordingly based on new advances.

Source: ADA
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