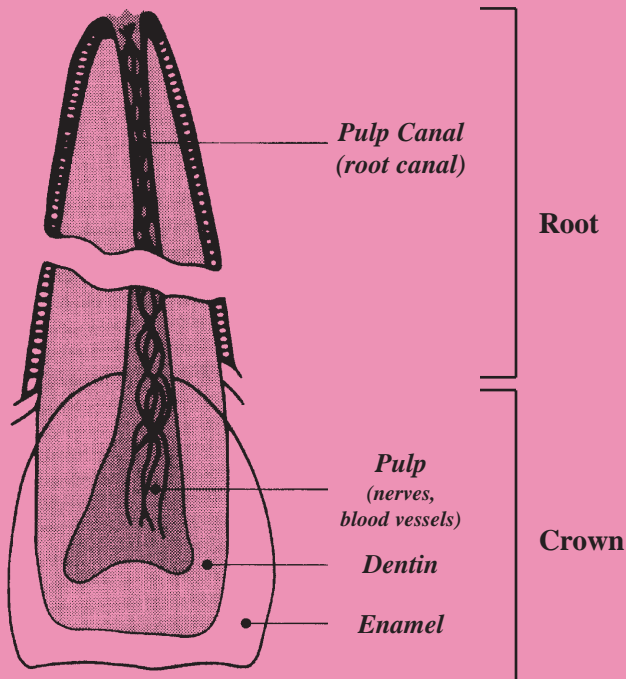


Emergency Treatment of Athletic Dental Injuries



Professionally-made, properly fitted Custom Mouthguards greatly reduce the risk and severity of mouth injuries. Mouthguards are recommended injury prevention equipment for all at-risk sports.

AVULSION (Entire Tooth Knocked Out)

1. Avoid additional trauma to tooth while handling. **Do Not** handle tooth by the root. **Do Not** brush or scrub tooth. **Do Not** sterilize tooth.
2. If debris is on tooth, *gently* rinse with water.
3. If possible, reimplant and stabilize by biting down gently on a towel or handkerchief. Do only if athlete is alert and conscious.
4. If unable to reimplant:
 - Best - Place tooth in Hank's Balanced Saline Solution, i.e. "Save-a-tooth."
 - 2nd best - Place tooth in milk. Cold whole milk is best, followed by cold 2% milk.
 - 3rd best - Wrap tooth in saline-soaked gauze.
 - 4th best - Place tooth under athlete's tongue. Do this **ONLY** if athlete is conscious and alert.
 - 5th best - Place tooth in cup of water.
5. Time is very important. Reimplantation within 30 minutes has the highest degree of success rate. **TRANSPORT IMMEDIATELY TO DENTIST.**

LUXATION (Tooth in Socket, But Wrong Position)

THREE POSITIONS

EXTRUDED TOOTH - Upper tooth hangs down and/or lower tooth raised up.

1. Reposition tooth in socket using firm finger pressure.
2. Stabilize tooth by gently biting on towel or handkerchief.

3. TRANSPORT IMMEDIATELY TO DENTIST.

LATERAL DISPLACEMENT - Tooth pushed back or pulled forward.

1. Try to reposition tooth using finger pressure.
2. Athlete may require local anesthetic to reposition tooth; if so, stabilize tooth by gently biting on towel or handkerchief.

3. TRANSPORT IMMEDIATELY TO DENTIST.

INTRUDED TOOTH - Tooth pushed into gum - looks short.

1. Do nothing - avoid any repositioning of tooth.
2. **TRANSPORT IMMEDIATELY TO DENTIST.**

FRACTURE (Broken Tooth)

1. If tooth is totally broken in half, save the broken portion and bring to the dental office as described under Avulsion, Item 4. Stabilize portion of tooth left in mouth by gently biting on towel or handkerchief to control bleeding.
2. Should extreme pain occur, limit contact with other teeth, air or tongue. Pulp nerve may be exposed, which is extremely painful to athlete.
3. Save all fragments of fractured tooth as described under Avulsion, Item 4.
4. **IMMEDIATELY TRANSPORT PATIENT AND TOOTH FRAGMENTS TO DENTIST.**

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The Academy for Sports Dentistry, a professional organization dedicated to the dental needs of athletes at risk to sports injuries, recommends that every sports medicine team include a dentist knowledgeable in sports dentistry.

MOUTHGUARDS SHOULD NOT BE OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT