

# Dental First Aid

Accidents happen! The most important factor in a dental trauma and ensuring the best outcome is **immediate assessment and treatment.**

**Dental injuries to the mouth include teeth that are:**

- **knocked out;**
- **fractured, broken or chipped;**
- **moved out of position or loosened; and**
- **may also involve cuts to the lip or gum.**

## Knocked out tooth

*If the tooth is completely knocked out, first wash the tooth in milk. Place in a container with milk or, if possible, straight back into the hole in your gum that it came out. You need to get to your dentist within 40 minutes to save this tooth.*

Please note: **Baby teeth SHOULD NOT** be reimplanted due to the risk of damaging the developing adult tooth.

## Tooth moved out of position or loosened

*If the tooth has moved out of position, first gently try to move it back into the correct position before getting to your dentist ASAP.*

*If it is a loosened tooth, make sure that the tooth is in the right position, otherwise a bite on it can cause further damage.*

## Fractured, broken or chipped tooth

*If the tooth is broken, dentine may be exposed making the tooth porous. This puts the tooth at risk of infection, so getting to your dentist to have the damage assessed and treated is key.*

*If the tooth has a sharp chipped edge, our dentists can smooth this to protect your mouth and tongue.*



Meet Dr David Kerr and Dr Darryl Marsh and get to know our guilt-free, judgement-free and pain-free approach to modern dentistry.

*Brisbane Northside dentists since 1988.*

## Long term dangers following trauma

The extent of damage to the tooth is often not easily visible so professional assessment, including X-Rays, is important to treat any problems early and reduce the risk of tooth loss.

We recommend you monitor, in partnership with your dentist, any affected teeth closely for at least three to six months for *internal or root resorption* – this is where the blood supply is restricted to the tooth.

Each dental accident needs to be individually assessed.

Contact us on **3263 2677** for the next available emergency appointment. If out of hours visit your closest emergency dental centre.

You can download this fact sheet from [todaysdentistry.com.au/fact-sheets/](http://todaysdentistry.com.au/fact-sheets/)

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