

### **Dental Emergencies:**

If you think you are having a dental emergency, we encourage you to contact us to discuss what we can do for you. Below are some rules of thumb to help you manage some urgent dental matters at home. However, if at any time you feel your life is threatened or at risk, we ask that you contact 911 or go to the nearest hospital immediately.

**Broken denture or partial:** Do not risk at-home repairs. Many of the glues you would use at home may actually ruin your denture's ability to be repaired. Keep all the pieces and call us. We can usually get your repair back to you within one business day.

**Broken Fillings:** Rinse your mouth out with warm salty water, usually 8oz of water to 1 tablespoon of salt. Place a dental wax or temporary dental filling material in the hole-these are available over the counter at most drug stores. Call us so that we may make you an appointment to have it evaluated and treated.

**Cuts, lacerations and/or jaw damage:** *This is a true dental emergency* and requires immediate attention at a hospital or an oral surgeons office. Do not call us. We recommend you take the patient to the emergency room immediately or call 911. DELAYING may cause even more problems. Seek IMMEDIATE attention!

**Knocked out tooth:** Do not panic. If you can place the tooth back in, do so without touching the root. If not, place it in a cup of milk and get to a dentist or Urgent Care Center/ Emergency room as soon as possible. The tooth root should not be touched if possible and the patient should be treated within an hour. Call us immediately! 704-953-5806 or 704-583-6363

**Lost Crown:** Many displaced crowns can be reused, so hang on to it. You can try to place it temporarily by using denture adhesive (like Fixodent) or dental temporary cement or filler available at most drug stores. Call us so that we may make you an appointment to have it evaluated and treated.

**Toothache:** Toothaches are common and can be caused by many things. Whatever the case, it is a sign that something is wrong and needs attention. Firstly, rinse your mouth out with warm salty water and try to gently floss the tooth to remove any debris or food that may be lodged in and around the tooth. Do NOT lay an aspirin on the tooth or near the gums of the tooth. This will cause irritation and ulceration of the gums and may cause more problems. An ice pack on the outside of your mouth in the area of the painful tooth and even some intraoral numbing agents may help. Give us a call so that we may make you an appointment to find out what is causing your problem.