

Fractured Mandible – Level II

FRACTURED JAW (MANDIBLE)

Level II
(No Level I)

Skill Level: RN

Definition: A break in the integrity of the mandible or facial bones.

<p>Subjective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patient complains of pain.• Patient states he/she cannot close his/her teeth together. Only complaint may be pain and “bite not right”.• “I was hit” or history of accident.• Elicit history of injury; how, when and where.• Location of pain.	<p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alteration in facial bones.• Alteration in oral mucosa.• Alteration in comfort.• Alteration in nutrition.• Alteration in respiration.
<p>Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No bones protruding through skin or oral mucosa.• No evidence of additional head trauma.• No facial asymmetry (except that caused by swelling).• There may or may not be evidence of injury.• Pain when gritting teeth.• Minimal bleeding or laceration.• Able to close jaw.• Teeth may be out of alignment.	<p>Plan: Call the Dental Clinic and send the patient immediately to the dentist if possible. Check other institutions, if possible, to see if a dentist is available</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Admit to infirmary or monitor closely. Nurse checks at least daily.• Transport to ER if protruding bone, facial asymmetry, or evidence of severe head trauma.• Inform dental department of the condition, and suggest an urgent appointment with the dentist. Instruct patient to keep jaw as immobile as possible.• ***If Panorex X-rays are available locally, arrange for Panorex to be done within three days. (May arrange transport to a facility with Panorex)*** <p>At nursing discretion may use any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have patient use ice pack on for 20 minutes/off for 20 minutes for first 24 hours.• After checking for allergies to medications may suggest:<ul style="list-style-type: none">–Ibuprofen 200mg 1-2 QID prn from unit.–Tylenol or ASA 2 QID prn from unit if intolerant to Ibuprofen.–If available meds not effective, may use Naprosyn 500 mg BID prn for pain for 5 days instead. (Always second line. Naproxen, ASA and Ibuprofen are not for pregnant patients.)• Call dentist or practitioner if any questions, including pain management.• Liquid diet.

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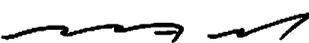
Nursing Education

1. Naprosyn, Aspirin, and Ibuprofen are not recommended for pain management for pregnant patients, please instruct all pregnant patient to use Acetaminophen (available in housing units) for minor pain management.

APPROVED:

Medical Services Manager

Date



Dental Director

2/25/15
Date

Steve Shelton MD.

Medical Director

2/24/2015
Date

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