

Fractured Tooth – Level II

FRACTURED TOOTH (ACUTE) Level II (No Level I)

Skill Level: RN

Definition: A fractured tooth or filling, accompanied by moderate to severe pain.

<p>Subjective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• "I was hit in the mouth."• "My tooth just broke."• Pain moderate to severe.• Elicit history of injury.	<p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alteration in tooth structure.• Alteration in comfort.• Potential alteration in nutrition.
<p>Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nerve or pinkish pulp area of tooth may be visible.• May be fractured at or below the gum line.	<p>Plan:</p> <p>Protocol only applies to fresh tooth fracture with acute pain. Teeth which have been fractured for more than a few days are not cause for immediate concern—instruct patient to send kyte to dental.</p> <p>For acute fracture, call the Dental Clinic and send the patient immediately to the dentist if possible. Check other institutions, to see if a dentist is available for consultation. If no dentist is available, follow plan below. At nursing discretion may use any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Place gauze (if jagged edges) or teabag (if available) over fractured area and have patient hold in place with biting pressure.• 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.)• May order soft diet.• Inform dental department of the condition, and suggest an urgent appointment with the dentist.

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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 M.D.

Medical Director

2/24/2015
Date

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