

## INJURIES TO THE MOUTH Level II

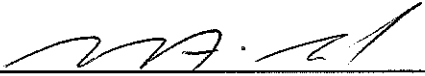
**Skill Level:** RN

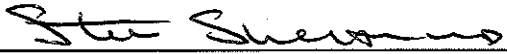
**Definition:** Damage to oral tissues and/or structures caused by trauma, which would be considered more than minimal, e.g., fractured or avulsed teeth, lacerations

<p><b>Subjective:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "I was hit in the jaw."</li> <li>• "My lip/mouth is bleeding."</li> <li>• "My tooth is broke."</li> <li>• Elicit history of trauma from patient; when and how.</li> <li>• Moderate to extreme pain.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Assessment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alteration in the oral mucosa.</li> <li>• Potential alteration in nutrition.</li> <li>• Alteration in comfort.</li> <li>• Alteration in tooth structure.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Objective:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moderate to large blood loss.</li> <li>• Intraoral or extraoral lacerations may be present.</li> <li>• Avulsed, loose, or fractured teeth may be present.</li> <li>• Bone fractures may exist.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Plan:</b></p> <p><b>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.</b></p> <p>Provide Level I treatment plan plus at nursing discretion may use any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soft diet.</li> <li>• Check for allergies to medications.</li> <li>• Instruct patient to use meds available on the housing unit to treat pain (handout).</li> <li>• If available meds not effective, may use Ketoprophen 75 mg TID for 5 days instead. (Always second line.)</li> <li>• May order soft diet.</li> <li>• Instruct patient to place moistened gauze over any fractured teeth.</li> <li>• Inform dental department of the condition, and suggest an urgent appointment with the dentist.</li> <li>• If lacerations are present, refer to Oral Laceration protocol.</li> </ul>

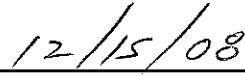
**APPROVED:**

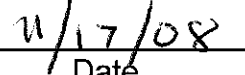
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Health Service Manager

  
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Dental Director

  
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Medical Director

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Date

  
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Date

  
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Rev: September 2008