

TOOTH TALK

THE NEWSLETTER THAT FILLS YOU IN!



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OUT OF THE DOCTOR'S MOUTH

What to Do if a Tooth is Knocked Out ?

Accidents do happen! Trauma to the mouth can result in a knocked out (avulsed) tooth. Fortunately, an avulsed tooth can be re-implanted, avoiding permanent loss and more costly treatment if the patient knows what to do when faced with this emergency.

knocked-out teeth to almost always be successfully replanted and retained.

- If the tooth has been out less than 15 minutes: hold by the crown, rinse with Save-A-Tooth or water and re-implant immediately, or use one of the transport mediums and get to the dentist.

Time means everything! Teeth quickly implanted, even if dirty or without a dentist's help, have a better outcome than teeth implanted after 2 hours with a dentist's help. If you cannot get right to a dentist it is better to replant the tooth yourself .



Time is the critical factor! Avulsed teeth placed quickly in the Save-A-Tooth system have the best chance of being saved.

WHAT TO DO

In the field, avulsed teeth may be stored under the tongue or in the buccal vestibule (the area between the cheek and teeth). The tooth can also be stored in saline or milk, but the best storage medium is Hank's Balanced Salt Solution (Save-A-Tooth). This solution should preserve the tooth safely for up to four days and allows

- If the tooth has been out 15 minutes to 2 hours: soak tooth in Save-A-tooth for 30 minutes and re-implant the tooth or use one of the transport mediums and get to the dentist.

- If the tooth is out over 2 hours: The periodontal ligament is dead and re-implantation cannot be accomplished but get to the dentist as soon as possible for treatment options.

WHAT NOT TO DO

- Do not touch a viable root with fingers or try to scrub or clean it. The periodontal ligament will be injured and unable to re-vascularize the tooth.
- Do not replace primary (baby) teeth. Re-implanted primary teeth heal by ankylosis. They literally fuse to the bone, which can lead to cosmetic deformity. Ankylosis can also interfere with the eruption of the permanent tooth. Referral to a physician for Tetanus consultation within 48 hours is recommended.

If you would like to purchase a Save-A-Tooth system we will order one for you. They are \$15.00 and worth it.

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday:	By appt. only
Tuesday:	8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Wednesday:	8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. evenings by appt.
Thursday:	8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Friday:	8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Closed 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. for Lunch	

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE STAFF!



The advent of the holiday season causes us to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas and the most important gifts we receive – the gifts of family, friends and community. My staff and I consider our patients one of our greatest blessings and we thank you for your patronage, friendship and loyalty. We wish you and your family a joyous and blessed holiday and health and happiness in the New Year.

Vic

THE LITERACY CONNECTION

Become a Volunteer Classroom Helper!



Teens mentoring younger students after school while earning community-service hours, high school and college students earning class credit with some

100% of the teachers surveyed stated that students mentored by a Literacy Connection volunteer showed definite improvement in reading and math skills, classroom participation and motivation to learn.

Our patients have funded the placement of dozens of volunteer mentors in local classrooms just by making their Cleaning Visits!

The Literacy Connection Program of the Volunteer Center of Sonoma County is a non-profit organization that recruits and prepares volunteers to be academic helpers in Santa Rosa area classrooms. The opportunity to help is available to

teacher involvement and adults working 1:1 with students in K-12th grades.

For more information, call Barbara Fisher, Literacy Coordinator, at (707) 573-3399, ext. 122 or visit the web site at:

www.volunteercenter.now

We Donate \$1.00 to the Literacy Connection for each Cleaning Visit You Make!

GIVE A SMILE!

We Want to Meet Your Friends and Family!

Assist a friend or family winner in receiving \$25 off their initial visit to our office and throw your hat in the ring to enjoy a:

\$100 Gift Certificate for Dinner at a Local Restaurant

or a

\$15 Gift Certificate to Starbuck's

CONGRATULATIONS TO ***Dale Wheeler***

CONGRATULATIONS TO ***Nicole Lee***
ENJOY YOUR \$100 DINNER AT:



A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO:

David Brown, Jackie Broxon, Tina Del Buono, Kathy Deterick, Harriet Draper, Chris Eddy, Michael Fiumara, Tena McKenna, Karla McLaren, Cindy Meyer, Hassina Patel, Phyllis Porter, Anita Rackerby, Phyllis Smith, Judith Thew, Olga Vallarino, Scott & Amy Wood
ENJOY YOUR STARBUCK'S GIFT CERTIFICATES!

WE NOW HAVE DIGITAL X-RAYS

Safer, Greener, Quicker, Clearer

We are proud to announce that we now employ digital x-ray technology, offering the advantage of reduced radiation exposure for the patient, no need for film processing and chemical disposal, and production of nearly instantaneous computer images that can be magnified to approximately 50 times their original size.



Digital x-ray magnification allows problem areas to be more easily seen by the patient and dentist.

Digital x-rays are covered by most insurance, the cost is similar to that of film x-rays, and insurance acceptance is quicker because digital x-rays are sent electronically.

Gone are the days of biting down on sharp swatches of film and waiting for the pictures to be developed. With digital x-ray technology a much more comfortable digital sensor is inserted in the mouth and the much magnified digital image instantly pops up on the computer screen attached to the patient's chair. This allows the patient to more easily see a dental problem and understand the dentist's treatment recommendations.



Digital Sensor

Hidden areas of decay are no longer hidden, allowing problems to be discovered earlier and reducing unnecessary dental procedures and related costs.

In addition to offering unprecedented precision magnification and clarity, digital x-rays decrease patient exposure to radiation (up to 90 percent compared to traditional film technology). Digital sensors include a material that immediately magnifies the x-ray allowing for a lower dose of radiation and shorter exposure time to produce the image (to increase safety, the patient is still required to wear the protective lead apron).

Digital x-rays have revolutionized dentistry by allowing significantly improved diagnosis and increased patient understanding of treatment planning options.

Dental x-rays are an essential tool in diagnosis and treatment of dental problems. Digital technology is a big step toward improving dentistry, patient-dentist dialogue and overall dental health.

CARECREDIT FINANCING PLAN

We Pay the Financing Fees for You!

Are you putting off needed dental treatment because of lack of financing? We offer **CareCredit**, a California Dental Association endorsed program, to assist our patients in financing their treatment plans. The program offers flexible and reasonable financing options, including no-interest (we pay the financing fee for you!) and extended-payment plans. The credit decision only takes a few minutes and there are no annual fees or prepayment penalties. For more information and a brochure on this financing option talk to Sue in the front office.



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WE ARE ON THE WEB!

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TONGUE IN CHEEK

Bring this completed Dental Word Teaser to your next appointment and receive a \$5.00 gift certificate to Starbucks. Good Luck!

Unscramble these four jumbled words one letter to each square to form common words.

TAWEH

TOSA

TEYAS

NESSOC

Now arrange the letters in the red boxes to form the surprise answer as suggested by the cartoon to the right.

**What did the dentist
diagnose on the baker ?**



a

“ ”

Answer in the next newsletter!

Answer to last puzzle:
“Tooth & Nail”

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

