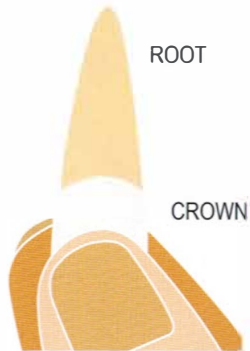


TEETH CAN BE KNOCKED OUT OF A PERSON'S MOUTH BY VARIOUS ACCIDENTS - FOR EXAMPLE AT HOME, IN PLAYGROUNDS, IN SPORT, OR MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS.

THESE TEETH CAN BE SAVED BY ACTING FAST



The teeth can be put straight back in the mouth (replanted), and can usually return to normal function and appearance. The most critical factor in replacing a tooth is time. Quick action to locate the tooth, clean it, replant it, or keep it moist will give the best chance of success. Teeth that are replanted within 30 minutes have the best chance of surviving. The time taken to obtain treatment from a dentist is also critical. If possible have someone telephone to alert the dentist of the accident.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

REMAIN CALM. FIND THE TOOTH. HANDLE THE TOOTH ONLY BY THE CROWN (WHITER PART) AND NOT BY THE ROOT (YELLOW PART)



IF THE TOOTH IS CLEAN

Replant immediately. Use the other teeth as a guide. Have the patient hold the tooth in place with finger pressure; or bite on a handkerchief to keep the tooth in place. Seek immediate dental treatment - remember time is critical.

IF THE TOOTH IS DIRTY

Clean and replant as soon as possible. If available, rinse in milk and then replant. If milk is not immediately available then rinse **BRIEFLY** in cold water or have the patient gently suck the tooth clean then replant. Seek immediate dental treatment - remember time is critical.

IF UNABLE TO REPLANT

Keep the tooth moist by either:
Placing it completely submerged in MILK or
Alternatively sealing it in plastic wrap (eg. Glad Wrap), or placing it in the patient's mouth next to the cheek.
But **DO NOT** store the tooth in water or detergents. Seek immediate dental treatment - remember time is critical.



IF THE ROOT APPEARS TO BE BROKEN

Replant in socket.
Or place in milk or plastic wrap. Seek immediate dental treatment - remember time is critical.



WHAT YOU MUST NOT DO

DO NOT HOLD THE ROOT SURFACE
DO NOT SCRAPE OR RUB THE ROOT SURFACE
DO NOT LET THE TOOTH DRY OUT
DO NOT RINSE IN WATER FOR MORE THAN A FEW SECONDS
DO NOT STORE THE TOOTH IN WATER
DO NOT DELAY SEEKING DENTAL TREATMENT



WHAT WILL THE DENTIST DO?

If the tooth has been replanted the dentist will make sure that it is correctly positioned. If it has not been replanted, then the dentist will replant it. The tooth must be splinted in place for a short time. Your dentist will also examine the mouth for other injuries and advise how to care for the injured tooth. Your dentist may also recommend antibiotics and possibly a tetanus booster to prevent infection due to contamination of the tooth and wound.

THE TOOTH MAY NEED FURTHER TREATMENT TO AVOID ANY FURTHER PROBLEMS DEVELOPING - YOUR DENTIST WILL DISCUSS THIS WITH YOU