

Eden Aldrich, RNP

**STANDING ORDER
DENTAL PROBLEMS**

I. ASSESSMENT

- A. Assess complaints of dental pain, inspect gums and teeth, take dental history.
- B. Take vital signs, including temperature.
- C. No routine flossing of teeth shall be conducted unless a written order is obtained from the treating dentist for a documented dental condition that necessitates the use of dental floss.

II. MANAGEMENT

- A. If pain is severe or there is pus/drainage from gums, facial or gum swelling or fever, begin antibiotics.
 - 1. If no amoxicillin or penicillin allergy, may start Amoxicillin 1000mg orally as a loading dose, followed by 500mg orally TID for 7 days.
 - 2. If penicillin allergy, may start Clindamycin 600mg loading dose X1 then 300 mg PO TID for 7 days.
- B. For minor discomfort, order warm salt water rinses TID and instruct in dental hygiene.
- C. For mild to moderate pain, give APAP 325 mg, two tablets BID for pain and/or may give Ibuprofen 200 mg two tablets BID which may be purchased during A.M. and P.M. medication pass.
- D. For severe pain, or following extraction, Ibuprofen 600 mg BID and/or acetaminophen 1000 mg bid PRN dental pain x 14 days, if no contraindication.
- E. If appears to develop a “dry socket” at dental extraction site, contact dentist for instructions.
- F. Dentemp may be administered to patient with severe decay, open tooth pulp/nerve exposed to decrease pain. Place small amount on the lid of a med cup and instruct patient on use. Document in Correct Tec as a PRN medication for 30 days. Educate inmate that they may request more Dentemp by sending a kite to medical. Further needs for continued Dentemp require reassessment by RN monthly.

III. EVALUATION

- A. If symptoms worsening, recurrent or not improving, schedule patient to see Medical Director on next clinic day.