

Tooth Abscess

A dental abscess also known as **tooth abscess** is a localized infection of pus that has spread around and beyond the tooth itself. The most common type of dental abscess is a tooth related abscess, and the second most common is a gum abscess

Know when you have an Abscessed Tooth

There are number of symptoms. A tooth that is this infected with becomes dark in color.

The tooth may develop a pinkish protrusion in the gum tissue, around the infected tooth. This feels like a pimple. This pimple is filled with pus and requires having a dental procedure. This presents itself with a foul taste in the mouth and bad breath.

The tooth may be infected without any pain. If you are not experiencing any pain, it means that the infection has not spread to your gum tissue and jawbone. You still have a chance to fight off the bacteria before the abscess spreads to surrounded tissue. Tooth abscess requires a dental exam and check-ups x-rays for diagnosis.

The Recommended Treatment for an Abscess

A permanent treatment of a tooth abscess is the physical removal of the bacterial infection. This includes treatment with a dental surgical procedure.

There are a two approach to treating dental infections. The first step is antibiotics. This makes sure that the condition is kept under control. The second deals with the tooth itself. It has to be drained, cleaned of the bacteria and/or removed. The primary focus is on controlling the symptoms – in many cases antibiotics are key.

A root canal is the recommended treatment if there is a chance that the tooth can be saved. The procedure will usually have to be followed up with a crown or bridge.

Tooth Abscess Symptoms

The pain related to abscess is sharp and continuous. Shooting and throbbing pain is often present. The tooth may be sensitive to touch and possibly swollen. This swelling may be at the base of the tooth, around the gum, and/or the cheek area.

Tooth abscess may be painless with a swelling present around the gum, but is not the norm.

In many cases, an abscess may perforate bone and start draining into the surrounding tissues creating local facial inflammation known as swelling. The pain does not normally transfer across the face. The pain travels up and down, as the nerves that serve each side of the face are separate.

Severe pain on the side of the face where the tooth is abscess is common. The tooth may become unbearable to touch due to high amounts of pain.