

Extractions (removal) of Baby Teeth

Why do baby teeth need to be removed?

- When a tooth has been damaged either by infection (from tooth decay or gum disease) or trauma (from a knock or bump) or as requested by your orthodontist.

How is the baby tooth removed?

- The tooth and surrounding area will be numbed by local anesthetic. Once the area is numb the tooth is removed. Your child will be asked to bite down on a piece of gauze to help stop the bleeding and form a clot.

What are the risks of removing a baby tooth?

- Damage to lips and cheeks: child may bite or rub the numbed area without realising the damage it may be causing; children may need to be supervised until the numbness has worn off
- Short term minimal to moderate pain is anticipated and can be remedied by an anti-inflammatory (like Advil based on Dr recommendation)

Uncommon risks and complications include:

- If a baby tooth is lost early, the adult tooth may not be ready to move into position to fill the space; this can result in a loss of space for the adult tooth
- Irritation to the nerves during the extraction can cause permanent or prolonged numbness or tingling sensation to the lip, tongue, cheek, chin, gums or teeth

What happens following removal of my child's tooth?

- Healing usually occurs quickly without complications
- Following removal of the tooth, the anesthetic effect may continue for some hours. Your child's mouth may feel swollen and uncomfortable during this period. Some pain can be expected because the tissues have been disturbed during the tooth removal.

What can I / my child do to help prevent complications following removal of a tooth?

- Avoid eating until the numbness is gone
- Your child must not bite or suck the lip, cheek or tongue while the area is numb
- Chew food on the opposite side of the mouth to the wound for 24hours.

I have had the opportunity to ask questions of my doctor and I consent to the procedure.

Parent / Guardian / Patient

Date

Printed Name if signed on behalf of patient

Relationship