



Antibiotics are not needed to treat your dental symptoms today. Using antibiotics when they are not needed can cause harmful side effects and make them less effective in the future when we really need them to treat infections.

The symptoms you present with today suggest:

- Tooth pain (cause not yet known)
- Localized abscess (a pocket of pus near the tooth)
- Dry socket (pain after the tooth has been removed)
- Dental decay (a cavity)
- Post-operative pain (pain after dental surgery)
- Other (Please specify): _____

How to help you feel better and treat symptoms:

- Ibuprofen* (e.g., Advil, Motrin) 400-600 mg every 6-8 hours as needed for up to _____ days
- Acetaminophen (e.g., Tylenol) 500-1000 mg every 4-6 hours as needed for up to _____ days

*Only to be used if no other conditions that could cause issues like renal or liver failure, history of gastrointestinal bleeding. Ibuprofen is first line medication recommended for mild to moderate tooth pain. For severe pain, you can take a combination of Ibuprofen and Acetaminophen, using the doses above. Do not exceed maximum daily dose of Acetaminophen (4000 mg) or Ibuprofen (1200 mg- 2400 mg), if no history of congestive heart disease, risk of cardiac attack or strokes.

- Saltwater rinse/gargle
- Ice pack - apply to the sore areas
- Heat pad - apply to the sore areas
- Other treatment (Please specify): _____

Next Steps:

- Please contact your dentist for further assessment and definitive dental treatment.

Please return to your primary care provider, dentist, or seek more immediate medical care if any of the following occur:

Fever: Temperature above 38°C/100.4°F

Severe pain: Increased pain after visit

Facial swelling: Cheeks, floor of the mouth and/or under the jaw

Difficulty swallowing/breathing

Other (Please specify): _____

Prescriber: _____