

What is an avulsed tooth?

An avulsed tooth is one that has been knocked out. This can happen as result of:

- A blow to the mouth
- An accident involving the face

Bleeding

Apply pressure to the socket with a clean handkerchief.

I still have the complete tooth; can it be replaced?

Maybe. The complete tooth needs to be replaced as soon as possible. Teeth can be successfully replaced up to 60 minutes or more after being avulsed. The sooner it's replaced the higher the chances of success.

What should I do with the tooth?

Avoid handling the root. If it is very dirty, rinse with milk or running water. Do not clean with disinfectant or let it dry out. Never re-implant a tooth that is visibly dirty.

How do I put the tooth back in?

Hold the tooth by the crown and put it back into the socket firmly, root first. Bite on a clean handkerchief for about 15 -20mins.



Avulsed Tooth

What should I do if I can't get the tooth back in?

The tooth has more chance of survival if you keep it in saliva, usually between the molars and your cheek until you get to the emergency department. If this is not possible, or you fear a child may swallow the tooth, keep it in some milk or saline. **AVOID STORAGE IN WATER.**

What if I have only got part of the tooth that has been knocked out?

It is not a good idea to try and put the tooth back into the socket if it's not complete.

Is there anything I should do if I don't have the tooth?

If you cannot find the tooth, you may have swallowed it. If you think you may have swallowed or inhaled it, you may need a chest x-ray to be sure.

What if it's a baby tooth?

It is not recommended to re-implant a baby tooth as this may cause an infection, which may damage the adult tooth underneath.

Will I require further treatment?

You should attend your dentist or emergency department as soon as possible because you will likely need immediate treatment, where any facial injury will be assessed and treated. Treatment may be limited if there is extensive bruising or bleeding. X-rays may be taken to assess any fractures and/or remaining teeth.