

# DENTAL PAIN

Is there swelling?

NO

YES

Does it restrict **mouth opening**, cause **difficulty in swallowing** or **extend to the eye or neck**?

NO

YES

Sensitivity to hot and cold

Throbbing pain with hot but better with cold lasts minutes/hours can affect sleep

Pain around erupting wisdom tooth at the back (upper or lower jaw) Sometimes with a bad taste/smell

Ulceration / inflammation / red area or abnormal appearance for less than 2 weeks

YES

NO

Inflammation of the nerve in the tooth which may be reversible may require a filling

Inflammation of the nerve in the tooth which may be irreversible may require root canal treatment or extraction

Inflammation of the gum around an erupting wisdom tooth Usually improves with local measures

If less than 3 weeks then could be due to trauma from a tooth or denture or food

If more than 3 weeks there may be other causes which need investigation

Infection which is spreading requires assessment and treatment

Paracetamol + Ibuprofen regularly as per instructions If no better in 3-4 days seek dental care

Paracetamol + Ibuprofen regularly as per instructions if pain is severe and not controlled with pain relief seek dental care

Warm salt water rinses 4 x a day until improvement & gentle toothbrushing around the area  
Paracetamol + Ibuprofen regularly as per instructions  
If no improvement and swelling develops seek dental care

Warm salt water rinses 4 x a day until improvement In addition Difflam® mouthwash or spray from the pharmacist

Contact your local urgent dental care centre for advice Or call 111

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Paracetamol + Ibuprofen regularly as per instructions  
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**Urgent Care needed Via A&E or 111**

