



## Animal Dental Services

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## Dental Emergencies

Most dental problems in pets do not require emergency care, but there are a few notable exceptions.

### Tooth Luxation and Avulsion

A major tooth that has been knocked loose, but is still partially in place is called a tooth luxation. If it is knocked completely out, it is called an avulsion. If the tooth is a healthy and sound tooth, it may be possible for such a tooth to be replaced into its socket.

Bring the tooth and your pet with you to Animal Dental Services as soon as possible to see if it can be saved.

#### **How to store and transport the tooth:**

Ideally the tooth should be quickly placed into a liquid made for the purpose of preservation called Hanks Balanced Salt Solution or HBSS. A school nurse may keep that on hand, but most households do not. You can also use milk as a good second choice if HBSS is not available. Do not scrub the tooth. Simply rinse the dirt off quickly and put the tooth in a small container with the HBSS or milk.

A luxated or avulsed tooth will usually need to be splinted into place for a few weeks, and then require a root canal procedure. If the tooth cannot be replaced, the empty tooth socket is cleaned and sutured closed.

### Fractured Jaw

A fractured jaw that involves the teeth should be seen by a veterinary professional as soon as possible. If your pet has suffered a fractured jaw or trauma during the night or when Animal Dental Services is closed, please visit your nearest emergency animal hospital. Often such a case will need to be managed jointly with emergency personnel and dental/surgical specialty care.

**If you are unsure if your pet's dental condition requires immediate action, please do not hesitate to contact us at 949.936.0054.**