



# Have a Toothache? Is It an Emergency?

Dental infections can be serious, and that's no joke! It can be hard to decide if your child should go to the emergency room (ER) for a toothache. **But, Delta Dental is here to help!**



## When should you go to the ER?

**If you think your child has a dental emergency, ask yourself if any of the following are true:\***

- Broken jaw or severe injury to the face or teeth
- Swelling of the face, throat, or mouth with any of the following:
  - Trouble breathing or swallowing
  - Fever of 100°F or higher
- Severe pain with or without swelling
- Bleeding in the mouth that won't stop

If the things on this list don't apply to your child, call a dentist or consider the closest urgent care center. Only you can decide what's best for your child, but always follow up with a visit to your dentist after urgent or emergency care.



## If urgent care is needed, but not a visit to the ER

- Call your child's dentist.
  - If you have Delta Dental benefits and your child needs a dentist, use the Find a Dentist tool on the Delta Dental website.
- Seek care in an urgent care center, but then call a dentist as soon as possible.

**\*Important!** These are examples of when to go to the ER for your child's dental problems, but it is **up to you** to decide. Regular dental visits are the best way to prevent emergencies.



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