EXTRACTIONS

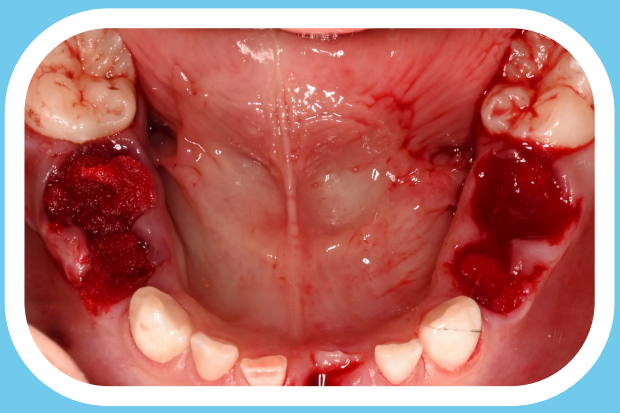
Sometimes, children need to have teeth removed, even though most baby teeth fall out naturally. A tooth extraction may be necessary if the natural process doesn't occur, especially to make space for incoming adult teeth. For example, if a baby tooth doesn't fall out on its own and causes crowding, an extraction might be needed to ensure the adult teeth can grow properly.

Tooth extractions may also be required if a tooth is damaged or infected beyond repair. This could happen due to an injury, infection, or severe cavity. In such cases, removing the tooth can prevent further damage and maintain oral health.

Before Surgery



After Surgery



AFTER CARE FOR EXTRACTIONS

Numbness

After the procedure, the lips, cheeks, tongue, and gums may feel numb for up to 2 hours. This can feel strange or uncomfortable, and the patient may feel as though their mouth is swollen. While numb, it is important to avoid biting, rubbing, or sucking on the numbed areas, as this can cause injury to the sensitive tissue. Reassure your child that the numbness will wear off soon.

Pain Relief

Pain relief will likely be needed after the procedure. We recommend giving Panadol (paracetamol) every 4 hours for the first 24 hours. Nurofen (ibuprofen) may also be given every 6 hours for the first 24 hours, if needed. After the first 24 hours, pain relief may still be required for the next 3 days.

Dissolvable Sponges

If any teeth were removed, dissolvable sponges may have been placed in the extraction sites to promote healing and clotting. It is normal for these sponges to fall out, and this will not affect the healing process as the clotting has already occurred.

Salt Water Rinses

Salt water rinses help with healing and maintaining oral hygiene. We recommend rinsing the mouth at least 3 times a day for the next 5 days, especially after meals. To make a salt water solution, mix 1/2 teaspoon of salt in 1 cup (250ml) of water.

Eating and Drinking

After the procedure, the patient may be hungry. They can begin eating soft foods such as jelly, custard, yoghurt, milkshakes, or ice cream once they are home stick to soft and cool foods. While the mouth is still numb, avoid biting the lips or cheeks, and refrain from consuming hot food or drinks to prevent burns or discomfort.

Tooth Brushing

Once the numbness wears off, you can resume brushing teeth, but be gentle, as the gums may be tender. Use a soft-bristled toothbrush and avoid aggressive brushing around sensitive areas.

Should you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us on 07 3831 5677 or email buzz@kidsdental.com.au