Dental Emergencies

Overview of Dental Emergencies



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Oral analgesics effective for most dental problems include acetaminophen 650 to 1000 mg q 6 h and NSAIDs such as ibuprofen 400 to 800 mg q 6 h. For severe pain, these drugs may be combined with opioids such as codeine 60 mg; hydrocodone 5 mg, 7.5 mg, or 10 mg; oroxycodone 5 mg.

Antibiotics for dental infections include penicillin VK 500 mg po q 6 h and clindamycin 300 mg po q 8 h.

Prophylactic antibiotics: Current American Heart Association guidelines (2007) recommend far fewer people use prophylactic antibiotics for prevention of infective endocarditis.

Coverage for dental procedures is recommended only for patients with prosthetic cardiac valves, previous IE, specific congenital heart diseases, and

for cardiac transplant recipients with heart valve problems (valvulopathy). Dental procedures requiring prophylaxis are those that require manipulation or perforation of gingival or oral mucosa or that involve the root end area of the teeth (ie, those most likely to cause bacteremia). The preferred drug isamoxicillin 2 g po 30 to 60 min before the procedure. For those who cannot tolerate penicillins, alternatives include clindamycin 600 mg or cephalexin 2 g.

Reference: http://www.merckmanuals.com

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