



There are two categories of orthodontic emergencies:

- 1) Direct injury to the mouth and teeth **DURING** active orthodontic treatment
- 2) Problems with your braces **DURING** active orthodontic treatment.

Direct Injuries to the mouth and teeth:

- These injuries include a tooth being knocked out, severely displaced or fractured, etc.
- Please contact your regular family dentist immediately.
- If the orthodontic appliances are dislodged or displaced due to the injury, we will need to replace or adjust them. Please call our office after seeing your family dentist first.

Problems with orthodontic appliances:

Broken brackets, bent wires, or disrupted appliances can occur from time to time during your care. If there is any disturbance such as poking wires or broken appliances, please call our office as soon as possible so we can evaluate the urgency of the problem and schedule you accordingly.

Common Orthodontic Emergencies During Treatment:

- **Broken Braces:** This type of emergency can often wait until your next appointment. In the meantime, you can use a small piece of the wax provided to you if it is still irritating your gums. If discomfort continues, please call the office.
- **Poking Wires:** Cover the exposed wire with wax or tuck the wire in with a pencil eraser or cotton swab. If it is still irritating your tongue, gums, lips or cheeks please call the office.
- **Lost Elastic Ties:** This should not cause you any discomfort and does not typically require immediate replacement. Please call the office so that we can make note of this to replace at your next scheduled appointment.