

FRACTURED DENTAL APPLIANCES (INCLUDING ORTHODONTIC APPLIANCES)



ASK

- What is the appliance?
- Is it causing pain or soft tissue trauma when worn (e.g. ulceration)?
- Is there anything that makes the pain worse or better?



ADVICE

- Fractured orthodontic appliances - patient should contact their orthodontist at the earliest opportunity
- If the patient cannot contact their orthodontist, then contact their usual dentist or NHS 111, especially if affecting the roof of the mouth
- If there are sharp wires from an appliance traumatising the inside of mouth, try mouldable wax to cover them
- If it is a denture, advise to see a dentist for repair or remake of denture
- Do not 'glue' the broken parts as this can degrade the plastic
- Dental Technicians can also provide assistance for broken dentures
- Temporary denture repair kits are available for the short term
- If ulcers occur, avoid wearing appliance. Saltwater rinses or topical anaesthetic gels will help relieve symptoms



FOLLOW UP

- For orthodontic appliances, seek advice from an orthodontist at earliest opportunity
- For all other fractured appliances e.g. dentures, seek dental assessment



ALERT

- It is unlikely that the patient will experience severe pain with a fractured appliance, but if in pain to seek urgent dental assessment



PHARMACY PRODUCT

- Paracetamol, ibuprofen (for pain relief)
- Sugar free oral suspension analgesics
- Orthodontic wax (mouldable wax)
- Temporary denture repair kit
- Topical anaesthetic gels