

LOOSE TOOTH

A LOOSE TOOTH IS ONE WHICH MOVES OR WIGGLES IN THE MOUTH.

AS A NATURAL STAGE OF DENTAL DEVELOPMENT, CHILDREN HAVE LOOSE BABY TEETH WHEN THEIR ADULT TEETH ARE GROWING IN. A LOOSE TOOTH IN AN ADULT IS NOT NORMAL AND INDICATES A PROBLEM EXISTS.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What causes a Loose tooth?

A loose tooth can be caused by the loss of bone around the tooth ("periodontal disease"), a broken root of the tooth (trauma) or a widened space between the root and the bone that the tooth sits in (infection or long term stress).

2. Who is at high risk for a Loose Tooth?

Some people are more susceptible than others to having a loose tooth.

The people at high risk for having a loose tooth are those with:

- advanced periodontal disease
- an unbalanced bite
- excessive bruxism
- traumatic injuries to teeth
- infected root teeth

3. What can I do to minimize my risk of a Loose Tooth in the future?

Your dentist will make recommendations to manage the specific loose tooth risk factors that apply to you.

Here are some things that may be recommended:

- periodontal management procedures
- "equilibrating" or balancing your bite
- wearing a night guard
- wearing a sports guard
- treating any infections associated with your teeth

4. What will happen if I choose to do nothing about my Loose Tooth?

Most often a loose tooth will become progressively looser and eventually fall out. This process is frequently accompanied by pain and infection.



Perio Involved Recession



"Floating" Tooth



Flared Teeth