



Anticipatory Guidance



Healthy teeth and gums

Healthy teeth

If you see this :

- Explain the importance of regular twice daily brushing
- Reinforce the need to make healthy food and drink choices, especially low sugar choices
- Advise a dental check-up at 12months



Whitish lines along the gumline

Refer for a dental visit

White lines can be the beginning of tooth decay

- Explain the importance of regular brushing for the child and the whole family
- This early decay may be reversible if treated early
- Reinforce the need for healthy food and drink choices, especially low sugar choices



Refer for a dental visit soon

Brown areas or decay spots - more advanced decay

- Explain the importance of regular twice daily brushing with a fluoride toothpaste for the whole family
- Reinforce the need to make healthy food and drink choices, especially low sugar choices



Dental Abscess

Immediate Referral

Rampant decay, infection or trauma

- **Make an emergency referral** to a oral health professional (same day if possible)
- Consider the need for a medical referral for antibiotic prescription

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