WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHILD BITES THEIR CHEEK, LIP, OR TONGUE

Your child’s lip, cheek and/or tongue will be numb or "asleep" for about 2-3 hours. During that time, do not let your child bite, scratch, or pick at these areas.

Follow these instructions if your child bites his or her cheek, lip or tongue:

After local anesthesia is used, your child may accidentally chew on his or her lip, cheek or tongue to the point of injury. Once the initial bleeding stops, the area will likely turn whitish in color. Do not be alarmed – this is normal and not a sign of infection. Luckily, these areas of the mouth heal very quickly.

Apply an ice pack over the area during the first 3 days if there is swelling. Place the ice pack on the area for 15 minutes and remove it for 15 minutes. Repeat this process for 1 hour, 3 times a day.

Give your child Tylenol or Motrin over the counter as directed per the manufacturer’s label for pain.

Call us if the wound is not healing in 5-7 days or if it seems infected. Signs of infection include continued swelling, drainage, and/or redness. If the area won’t stop bleeding and/or if the injury is significant, call the office (225) 925-2273 so that we can further assist you.