# HIGH DESERT HEALTH SYSTEM
# AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER

| SUBJECT:<br>VIII-101 TOOTH TRAUMA | POLICY #: 1258 |
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| | VERSION: 2 |
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**PURPOSE:**  To provide guidelines when caring for and reporting anesthesia-related dental damage.

**POLICY:**

1. Anesthesia provider should, as part of pre-anesthesia evaluation document abnormalities of teeth and existing oral disease that could weaken support of teeth.

2. Anesthesia provider is responsible for documenting, informing the patient, or family members, of the injury and referring patient to dental consultation and care as necessary.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Record loose, broken, abnormally weak teeth or permanently attached dental prosthesis on the preoperative evaluation in ORCHID. The Informed Consent must include a discussion with the patient/parent/legal guardian about the possibility of tooth trauma, especially if teeth are in poor condition.

2. Check teeth after intubation or insertion of a LMA for possible trauma and document status. Retrieve any dislodged teeth.

3. If tooth has been loosened during anesthesia, try to remove it gently. If unable to remove easily, leave tooth in place and observe it carefully for dislodging during emergence.

4. Send removed tooth/teeth to Pathology for identification.

5. When patient is awake, discuss situation with patient/parent/legal guardian.

6. Refer patient to dentist in one of the County facilities to address the issue as soon as possible.  Follow patient until problem has been resolved.

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7.  Report event to the Medical Director.

8.  Document injury in the patient's medical record and enter a SI report.