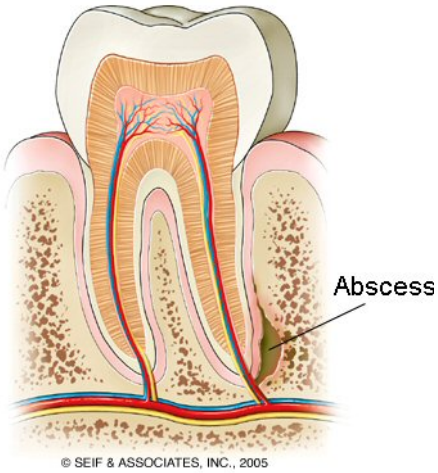
# Abscessed Tooth

An abscessed tooth is an infection around your tooth. It may be caused by tooth decay *(dental caries*). This causes the pain you are having.




Because it is an infection, medicine which kill germs (*antibiotics*) and pain medications as prescribed by your caregiver may treat it. Only take over-the-counter or prescription medicines for pain, discomfort, or fever as directed by your caregiver. Do not drive after taking medications. Doing this may decrease your mental alertness.

**Because an abscessed tooth is most often caused by dental disease, see your dentist as soon as possible for further care.**

The exam and treatment you received today have been provided on an emergency basis only. This is not a substitute for complete medical or dental care. If your problem worsens, new *symptoms* (problems) appear, and you are unable to arrange prompt follow-up care, call or return to this location.

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