Pericoronitis

Your exam shows you have pericoronitis. This condition is due to irritation around a wisdom tooth. It can be very painful. Pericoronitis usually means the wisdom tooth is infected and needs to be removed when the infection is better. A dentist or oral surgeon may remove the opposite tooth right away, however, to keep you from biting the infected gum.

Treatment of this tooth infection includes oral antibiotics and pain medicine. You should also rinse your mouth frequently with warm salt water (a pinch of salt in an 8 oz. [.25 liters] glass). See your dentist or oral surgeon as directed by our staff. **You should be seen right away or return to the emergency room if you have increased swelling or redness of your face or neck, if you cannot open your mouth, or if you have a fever over 101° F (38.5° C).**

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