Toothache

Your exam shows that your toothache is probably due to tooth decay and infection. Poor dental care is the main cause of this problem. Swelling and redness around a painful tooth often means you have a dental abscess.

Pain medicine and antibiotics can help reduce symptoms, but you will need to see a dentist within the next few days to have your problem properly treated. Fillings or root canal work may be needed to save your tooth. If the problem is severe, your tooth may need to be pulled.

SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL CARE IF:

- You cannot swallowing.
- You develop severe swelling.
- You have an oral temperature above 102° F (38.9° C), not controlled by medicine.

Document Released: 01/25/2006 Document Re-Released: 03/14/2011
ExitCare® Patient Information ©2011 ExitCare, LLC.