



When my tooth has been left open to drain

The tooth has been left open in order to let the pressure that's build up under the tooth from the infection, to equalize. The only thing to worry about is pressure building up again inside the tooth due to removed bacterial activity. Don't worry about food or saliva contaminating the area, the saliva will actually help combat the infection.

How do I care for my open Tooth?

As soon as you get home, start rinsing with warm salted water, 1 teaspoon of salt in a cup of hot water (the temperature of hot coffee or hot tea) vigorously "water chew", over that tooth, every hour, until the tooth-ache starts to feel better, which it will, customarily within a few hours.

There is every chance food will get stuck, in the "hole" in the tooth, but vigorous rinsing and toothbrush brushed across the surface should dislodge most food particles.

(Please, **DO NOT** use toothpicks, because they can really jam stuff in there!)

Do be sure to take any medication the doctor has prescribed for you in accordance with the instructions on the bottle.

The next day

You can reduce the hot salt water rinsing to:

Once in the morning after brushing,

After any meals or snacks, and then again, before bed, after brushing.

If the tooth-ache has not considerably reduced by the next day you must call the office to inform them of the situation.

When you return to the office

By now the tooth should be comfortable, at this appointment, the tooth will probably be closed up again.

YOU WILL NEED TO BE TAKING ANTIBIOTICS FOR THIS APPOINTMENT.