STANDING ORDER
DENTAL PROBLEMS

I. ASSESSMENT

A. Assess complaints of dental pain, inspect gums and teeth, take dental history.

B. Take vital signs, including temperature.

C. No routine flossing of teeth shall be conducted unless a written order is obtained from the treating dentist for a documented dental condition that necessitates the use of dental floss.

II. MANAGEMENT

A. If pain is severe or there is pus/drainage from gums, facial or gum swelling or fever, begin antibiotics.

1. If no penicillin allergy, may start Pen VK 500 mg 2 tablets BID for 7 days.

2. If penicillin allergy, may start Clindamycin 600mg loading dose X1 then 300 mg PO TID for 7 days.

B. For minor discomfort, order warm salt water rinses TID and instruct in dental hygiene.

C. For mild to moderate pain, give APAP 325 mg, two tablets BID for pain and/or may give Ibuprofen 200 mg two tablets BID which may be purchased during A.M. and P.M. medication pass.

D. For severe pain, or following extraction, Ibuprofen 600 mg BID and/or acetaminophen 1000 mg bid PRN dental pain x 14 days, if no contraindication.

E. If appears to develop a “dry socket” at dental extraction site, contact dentist for instructions.

F. Dentemp may be administered to patient with severe decay, open tooth pulp/nerve exposed to decrease pain. Place small amount on the lid of a med cup and instruct patient on use. Document in Correct Tec as a PRN medication for 30 days. Educate inmate that they may request more Dentemp by sending a kite to medical. Further needs for continued Dentemp require reassessment by RN monthly.

III. EVALUATION

Supersedes: February 5, 2019
Review Date: February 2021
Total Pages: 2
A. If symptoms worsening, recurrent or not improving, schedule patient to see Facility Provider on next clinic day