

Dental: Impacted Tooth Complications



Reading time:

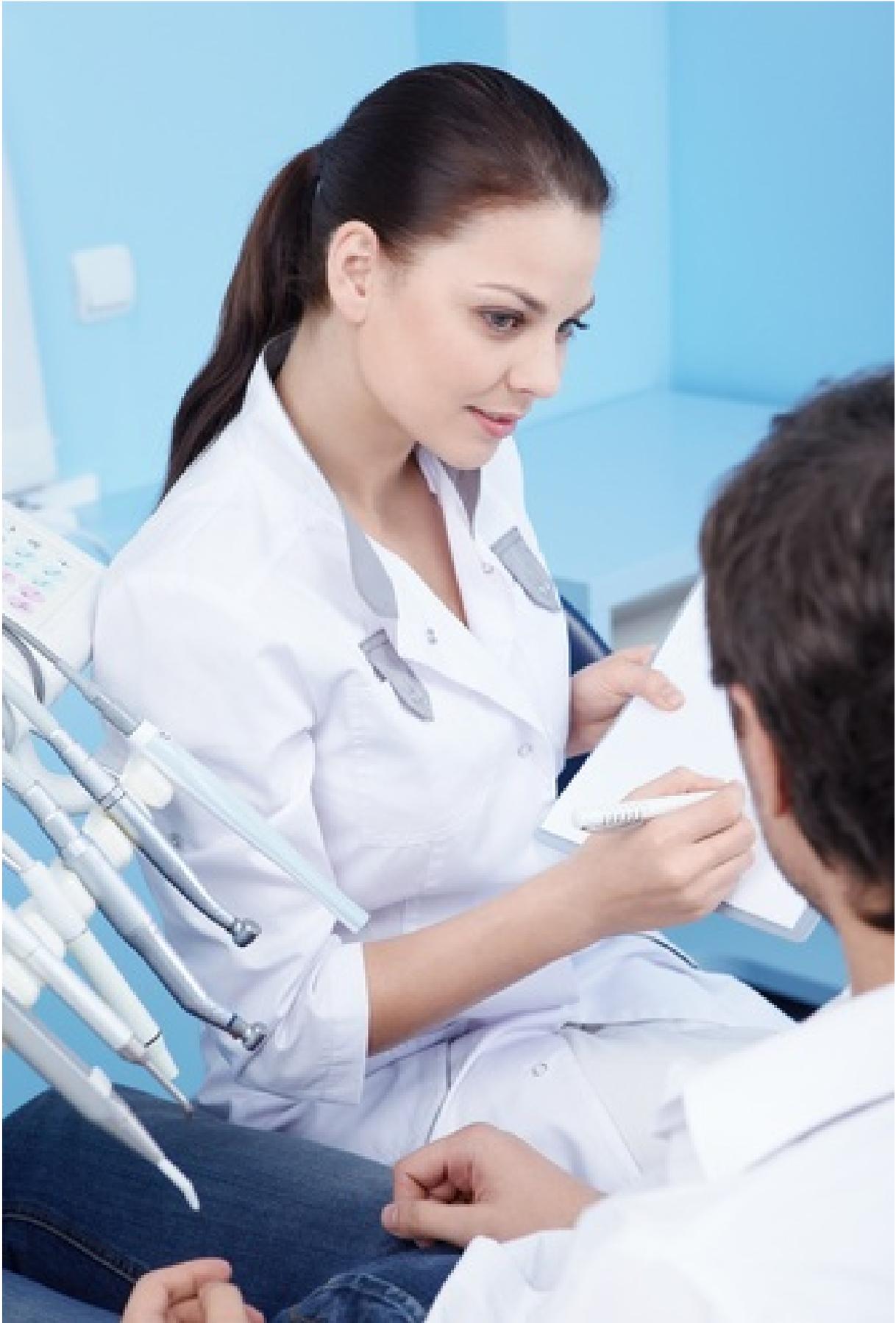
Jayson Nagpiing

Last Modified on 30/05/2024

Tags: [Article](#) | [Dental Practitioner](#) | [Dentist](#) | [Professionalism & Ethics](#)

Impacted 38 - root fragment in situ

Dr T's patient attended the surgery in a lot of pain. Radiology revealed a vertically impacted 38.



Dr T an inexperienced general dentist recommended that the patient get an Orthopantomogram (OPG) and consult a specialist as extraction can be difficult in such cases.

The patient was most reluctant to do so. He was a farmer and it was harvest time and insisted it be done that day. Dr T reluctantly agreed and advised the patient that he would need to take antibiotics for the infection and return in a few days.

The patient returned, the member explained the risks; the patient agreed and consented to exo of 38. The tooth was removed in multiple fragments and antibiotics continued. The patient returned in a few days in severe pain. It was then ascertained that a root fragment had been left in situ.

The patient was furious and threatened legal action.

Remember:

- patients need to be provided a detailed informed consent with all warnings of the material risks
- don't be pressured into providing treatment for which you have not been trained and are not qualified to provide. Keep to your scope of practice and training
- in such circumstances facilitate a referral to a more appropriate dental practitioner.

Related articles



CAREER LEADERSHIP PROGRAM >



MAKE SURE
YOU'RE COVERED
BY JUNE 30
MAKE IT MIPS

