

PREVENTION OF TRAUMATIC DENTAL INJURIES



Traumatic dental injuries has always been an important problem among children and young people.

Incidence:

7 – 10 years of age

permanent dentition > primary dentition

Male > Female

Predisposing factors:

- 1- Mentally handicapped patients.
- 2- Protruded upper incisors.
- 3- Enamel hypoplasia, extensive caries or other structural defects of teeth.
- 4- Contact sports, bicycle.



PREVENTION OF TRAUMATIC DENTAL INJURIES:

1-Early orthodontic therapy is an important preventive measure to reduce excessive over jet and maxillary protrusion.

2- Treatment of carious lesions and hypoplastic teeth.

3-Mouth protectors or mouth guards for contact sports.

Mouth protectors or mouth guards



IDEAL PROPERTIES OF MOUTH GUARD

It should be :-

- **Protective**
- **Comfortable**
- **Resilient**
- **Tear resistant**
- **Odourless**
- **Tasteless**
- **Not bulky**
- **Minimal interference to speaking and breathing.**
- **Excellent retention and sufficient thickness.**

Types:

- Stock prefabricated vinyl protectors
- Mouth formed protectors
- Custom made protector

1. Stock prefabricated vinyl protectors:

usually supplied in three different sizes: small, medium and large.

The appropriate size is chosen for the individual and trimmed as necessary to fit on the upper jaw.

Some remolding in the mouth by prior immersion in the hot water.

Disadvantages

1. Excess bulk.
2. Less comfort.
3. Interferes with speech.



2. Mouth formed protectors:

usually supplied in a kit containing a plastic shell, which is matched to the upper arch and trimmed where necessary.

The fitting surface is filled with soft acrylic or silicon and put to place on the maxillary teeth where the material is allowed to set while the teeth are gently closed together.

Further trimming of the margins is carried out.

Disadvantages:

1. Excess bulk.
2. Less comfort.
3. Interferes with speech.
4. Repeated tear.



3-Custom made protector:

This may be made of rigid (acrylic) or semi-rigid (Polyvinyl resin) material on a stone cast of the maxillary arch of the individual. When taking impressions, all removable appliances should be removed from the mouth.

The advantages :

- 1- not bulky.
- 2- Careful coverage of vulnerable areas.
- 3- high retention.

Disadvantages:

- 1- Expensive.
- 2- Need long time



