

DEPARTMENT OF ANESTHESIOLOGY



VUMC Dental Injury During Anesthesia Policy

Established: 12/30/89

Reviewed: 4/6/16

Revised: 1/2/92; 3/22/97; 4/6/00; 5/19/03; 8/1/05; 7/20/07; 10/22/08; 02/11/14

1. Document the event in the Anesthesia Record.
2. Fill out a Veritas Report.
3. There should be a discussion between the attending anesthesiologist and/or resident, the patient and the attending surgeon regarding plans for follow up. Reasonable costs of accidental damage are reimbursed by the Anesthesiology Department, if certain qualifications are met.
4. If there are clinical questions about the appropriate immediate management of the patient's dental condition, the Oral Surgery (OMS) resident on call should be paged.
5. The discussion cannot include a promise to pay, however the discussion may include an explanation of the departmental quality and safety office procedure for evaluating an appropriate restorative response, which may include payment for repair.
6. The Anesthesiology Department quality and safety office should be notified of the event, in addition to the VERITAS report. This office determines whether or not the facts of the case meet criteria for payment. General guidelines:
 - a. If the broken tooth is one that was in poor condition preoperatively, no financial assistance is offered.
 - b. Any financial assistance is to be considered a "good will" gesture.