

Orthodontic emergencies should be managed via telephone conversation, email advice or video consultation by the orthodontist or a member of your orthodontic team. If a patient needs to be seen, this should be done by appointment only, pre-booked in strictly allocated appointment slots, subject to staff availability. Give clear advice to patients not to attend **GDP or A&E**.

### Sharp wire on fixed appliance?

Patient to try bending any sharp ends in using tweezers, a pencil with a rubber on the end or a teaspoon. Call back if problem persists or if severe. Patient may need to be seen to trim wire as simply as possible.

### Removable appliance/retainer?

Continue to wear if possible and retentive. Advise pain relief as required.

### Broken bracket or tube attached to brace

Use patient wax. Removal of bracket/move bracket back against tooth. Pain relief as required. Leave if no pain/discomfort.

Patient to call back if problem persists.

Broken bracket or tube NOT attached to brace

Discarded- patient does not need to be seen

Possible ingested/inhaled foreign body-→ Advise may need to seek medical advice/attention- assess risk of inhalation.

Lost ormolast or powerchain?

Does not need to be seen. Patient may cut frayed ends or remove with tweezers.

Broken bonded retainer

Patient to try bending any sharp ends in using tweezers, a pencil with a rubber on the end or a teaspoon. Use wax. Wear removable retainers, out for eating/drinking.

Broken retainer/ URA/  
Functional Appliance

Continue to wear if possible and safe to do so. If not, cease wearing. Do not wear any small, easily ingested, parts of appliance.

Lost retainer/URA/ Functional Appliance

Patient does not need to be seen. Practice may be able to arrange a replacement using finish models. Patient could use 'boil in bag' gumshield for lost retainer.

#### Loose TPA/quad helix/lingual arch/RME

Leave in place if possible and safe to do so.

If appliance is partly dislodged and cannot be reinserted or removed at home, patient needs to be seen for band removal and wire trimming.

#### Sore gum?

Improve oral hygiene- phone practice if no improvement and rv for ANUG

Patients should only attend with a single escort if absolutely necessary. Escorts should NOT enter the clinic and should be in the low risk category and not COVID-19 positive, symptomatic or in self isolation.