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| **Pain killers and antibiotics**  **PAIN KILLERS**  The dentist may give you **one or two** different antibiotics, depending on the severity of the infection.  Antibiotics reduce the infection and also minimise the risk of further infection. Antibiotics **do not get rid of pain.** As the infection subsides the pain should also alleviate. But you may have to **take pain killers initially**. In our experience, the best pain killers are purchased from your pharmacy. A suggestion of pain killers that patients usually find effective to control severe dental pain are **Ibuprofen tablets and Solpadeine soluble taken together.** You can mix pain killers with antibiotics, but it is **best that you speak to your pharmacist** as to which pain killers to take.  **ANTIBIOTICS: HOW TO TAKE THEM:**  The dentist may prescribe you **either one** or **both**:  **Amoxicillin:**  **ONE capsule, THREE times a day, for FIVE days (15 capsules in total).** Space out over a 24 hour period. Complete the 15 capsules even if the dental infection has subsided. You will have 6 capsules left over. There is no need to take the 6 left over capsules.  Some patients may experience a small rash on their skin after taking Amoxicillin. This is not an allergic reaction, just a side-effect. If the rash does become severe then stop taking the Amoxicillin.  **Metronidazole:**  **ONE tablet, THREE times a day, for FIVE days (15 tablets in total).** Space out over a 24 hour period. Complete the 15 tablets even if the dental infection has subsided. You will have 6 tablets left over. There is no need to take the 6 left over tablets.  Do not take Metronidazole with Warfarin. Speak to your dentist if that is the case.  Some patients may experience nausea or stomach cramps after taking Metronidazole. Do not worry. If you are experiencing these symptoms and it becomes intolerable then stop taking the Metronidazole and continue with the Amoxicillin.  ....................................................................................................................................................................................................  **For all medication:**   * Keep out of read of children and do not get it mixed up with anybody else’s medication. * Read the instruction leaflet inside the packaging. * Make sure you are not allergic to any of the ingredients. * Take after food. * Avoid alcohol 24 hours before and after the course of antibiotics; speak to your pharmacist if you are unsure.   These antibiotics are usually safe to take with regular medication. If you are unsure it is **best to speak to your Pharmacist**. |

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