

Swelling? Help is at hand!

Swelling of your gums usually indicates infection. The infection can be coming from the tooth, from the gums, or from both. Pain is usually associated with swelling, but not always. Sometimes you may notice a painful swelling filled with pus (a thick, yellowish fluid). If the infection is not treated, it can spread and damage the surrounding bone and teeth.

The cases of swelling can vary greatly from a mild infection, which may only require thorough professional cleaning and mild treatment to full blown out abscess, which can involve root canal treatment, or even surgery, resulting in a loss of a tooth.

Remember, the infection will not go away on it's own, so it's important not to ignore the symptoms.

What do I do?

Make an appointment with a dentist as soon as possible.

Just call 02087888588 or visit us at 226a Upper Richmond Road, London and we will be happy to help!

Any mouth infection can have very serious consequences depending on the severity of the infection and the lead time from when it occurred to when you visited a dentist. The longer you wait, the more severe the infection will get, in turn making the treatment more serious, uncomfortable and expensive.

What will the dentist do?

There are essential three steps the dentist will take to get rid of abscesses (gum and tooth infections):

1. Clean the area thoroughly
2. Allow the trapped pus (thick, yellowish fluid) to escape
3. Treat the infection

This will get rid of most gum diseases and swelling.

In more severe cases, such as when the infection has started inside a tooth, your dentist will make a small hole in the tooth to allow the abscess to drain. The tooth will need root canal treatment, followed by a filling or a crown. If the infection is very large and has damaged the tooth significantly, it may need to be removed.

Remember, if you seek professional help right away, the treatments are often very simple!