Triaging Review

Spotlight Segment 1

for School Dental Sealant Programs

January 22, 2021

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Spotlight Segments Are:

- For year-round connection and checking-in
- Informal
- Open for all team members
- Encouraged and optional
- Available for any SDSP related topic

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Upcoming Dates

- **Spotlight Segments**
  - ✓February 5 - Infection Control
  - ✓February 19 – Site Visits
  - ✓February 26 (instead of March 5) - TBD
  - ✓March 19- TBD
- **Tentative In-person and Livestream Clinical Training**
  - ✓Friday, August 6, 2021
  - ✓Tuesday August 10, 2021
  - ✓Thursday August 12, 2021

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Triaging Appropriately

- Triage categories 0, 1, 2
  - Numbering based on CDC SEALS* categories
- Triaging for your program – Use BSS**
  - Then develop "program-specific" protocols for students who triage as a "1" but really need to see a dentist soon.
- Reporting to parents – Use OBD***
  - Required by law

*SEALS: Sealant Efficiency Assessment for Locals and States

**BSS: Basic Screening Survey

***OBD: Oregon Board of Dentistry

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What is BSS?

- Developed by ASTDD and Ohio Dept. of Health
- Used for standardized oral health surveillance
- Not recommended for research

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BSS Populations

- Pre-school populations (Including early Headstart and Headstart students)
  - Untreated decay (includes active and potentially arrested carious lesions
  - Treated decay
  - Treatment urgency

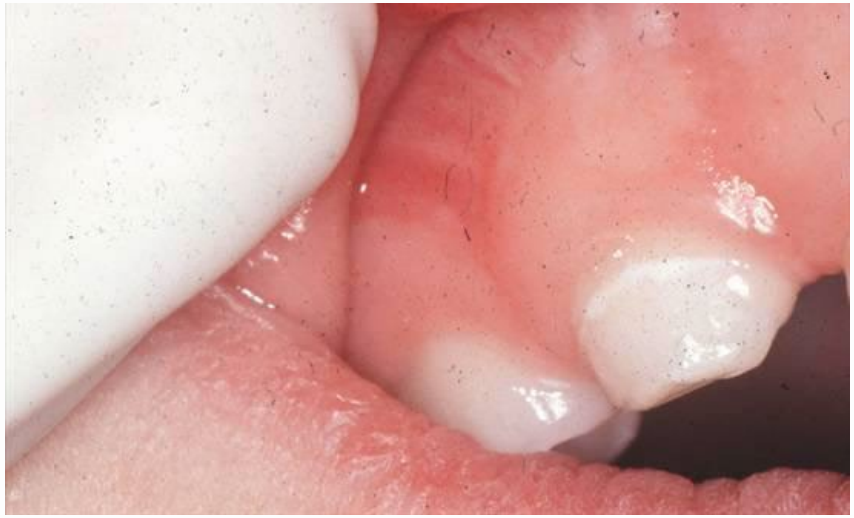
BSS Populations

- School Age (Kindergarten – 12th grade)
  - Untreated decay (includes active and potentially arrested carious lesions)
  - Treated decay
  - Sealants on permanent first and/or second molars
  - Urgency of need for dental care

BSS Treatment Urgency

0. No obvious problems

- Decay only on primary teeth about to be exfoliated
- Child can have decayed teeth but not need tx
- Routine dental care at next scheduled visit



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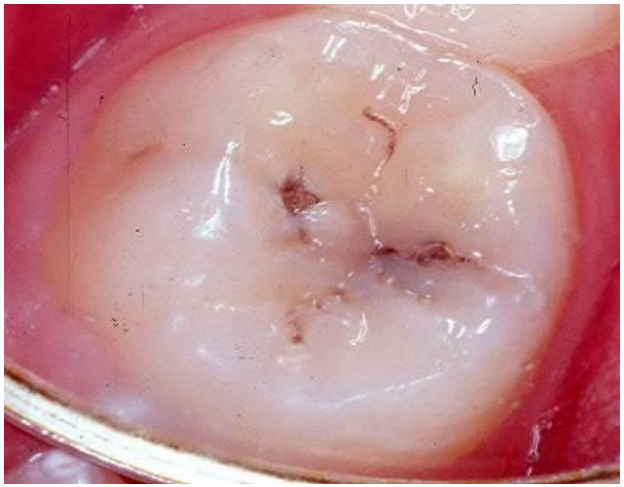
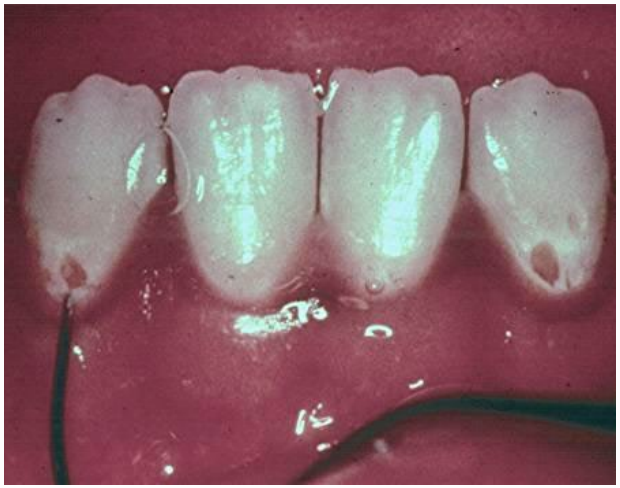
BSS Treatment Urgency

1. **Early dental care**
   - **Caries without accompanying signs or symptoms [no pain; no abscess] or individuals with other oral health problems requiring care before their next routine dental visit**
   - Dental care within next several weeks
   - These situations can look really bad, but still be a level “1”

BSS Treatment Urgency

- ***"Teeth are only considered decayed at the point in the caries process when enough enamel has been lost from the surface to create a definitive break in the enamel*** or more simply stated, a hole" ASTDD





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BSS Treatment Urgency

2. **Urgent dental care**
   - **Signs or symptoms that include pain, infection, or swelling**
   - **Child with an abscess should always be coded as urgent, even if the abscess is draining**
   - Needs dental care as soon as possible
     - CCOs/DCOs are expected to provide care within two weeks
     - There is also a CCO/DCO category “Emergency” which indicates care within 24 hours

Urgent Care

- **OARS 410-123-1060 Definition of Terms**

- (20)Dental Urgent Care" focuses on the management of conditions that require immediate attention to relieve severe pain and/or risk of infection and to alleviate the burden on hospital emergency departments. These should be treated as minimally invasively as possible.

Emergency Dental Care

- (19) Dental Emergency Condition" means a condition based on the presenting symptoms (not the final diagnosis) as perceived by a prudent layperson (rather than a Health Care Professional) and includes cases in which the absence of immediate medical attention would not in fact have had the adverse results. Dental Emergency Condition may include but is not limited to severe tooth pain, unusual swelling, or an avulsed tooth.

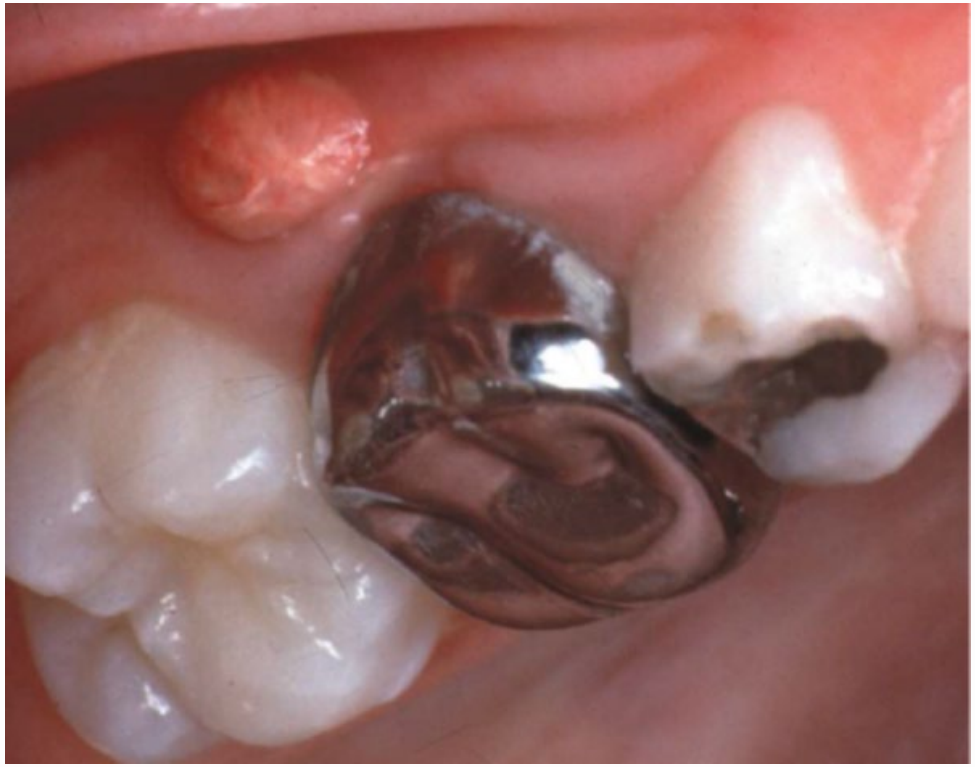
ICDAS and BSS

System	Sound	Early-Stage Untreated Decay	
ICDAS	Sound (Code=0)	First visual change in enamel Code=1	Distinct visual change in enamel Code=2
BSS	Sound Untreated =No	Sound Untreated= No	Sound Untreated = No

System	Established Untreated Decay		Severe Untreated Decay	
ICDAS	Localized enamel breakdown (Code = 3)	Underlying dentin shadow (Code=4)	Distinct cavity with visible dentin (Code=5)	Extensive cavity with visible dentin (Code=6)
BSS	Caries (Untreated=Yes)	Caries Untreated= Yes - only if there is a break in the enamel	Caries Untreated= Yes	Caries Untreated =Yes

No Obvious (0); Early (1); or Urgent (2)?

- No pain



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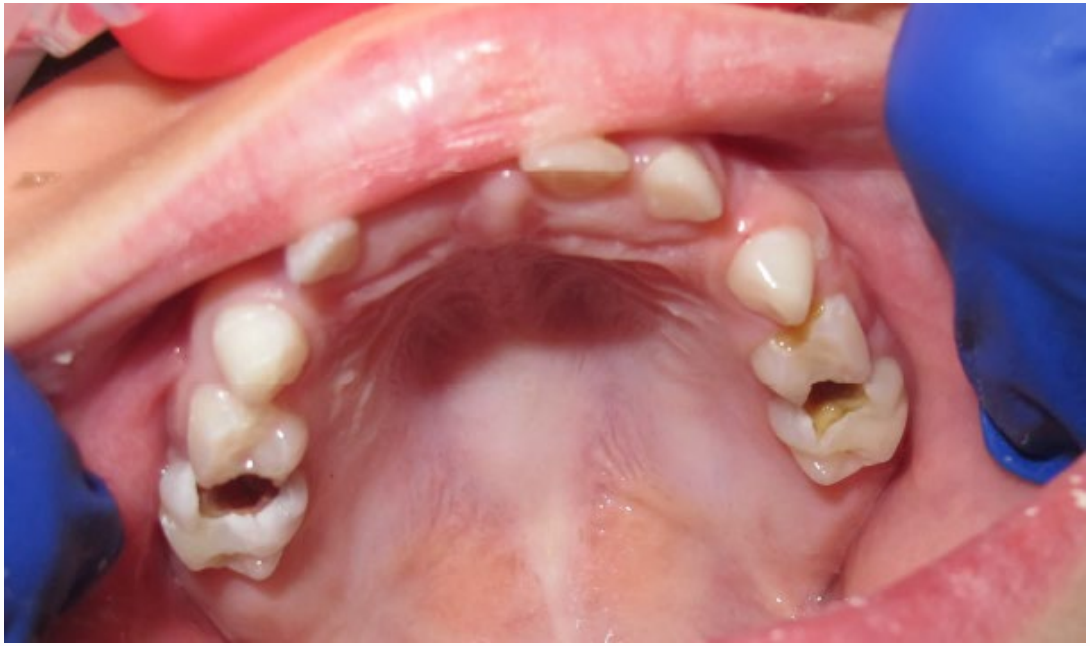

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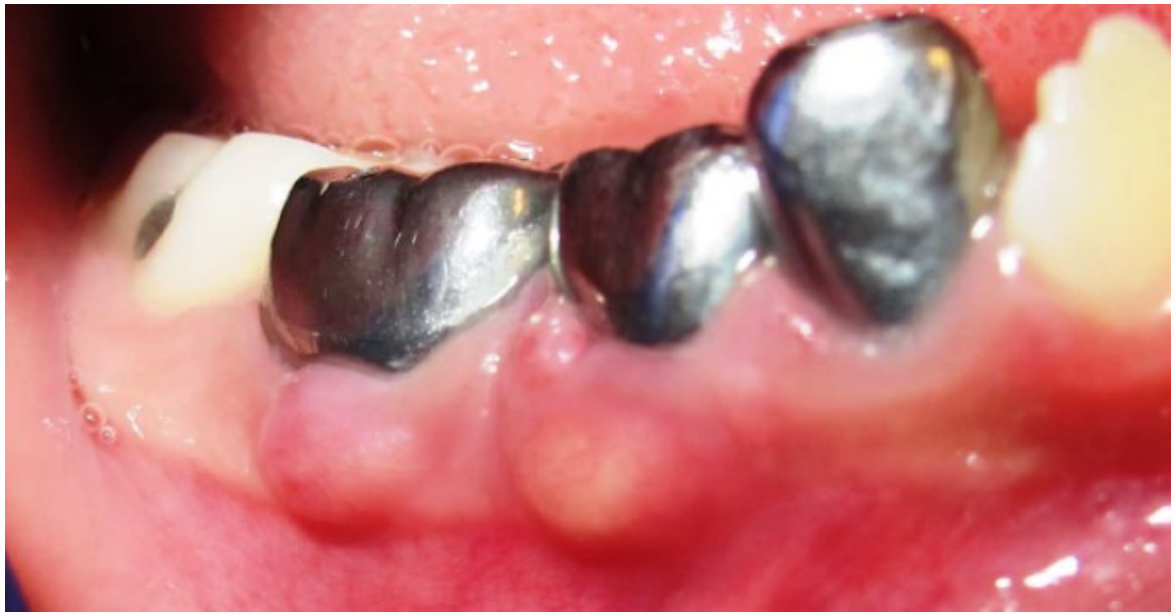

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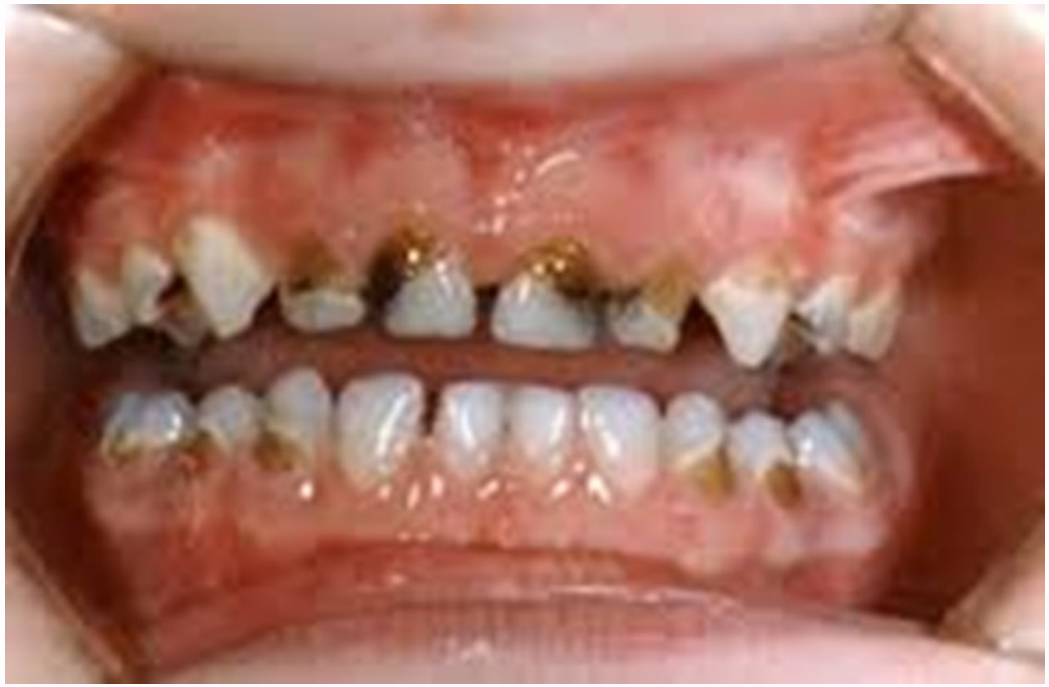

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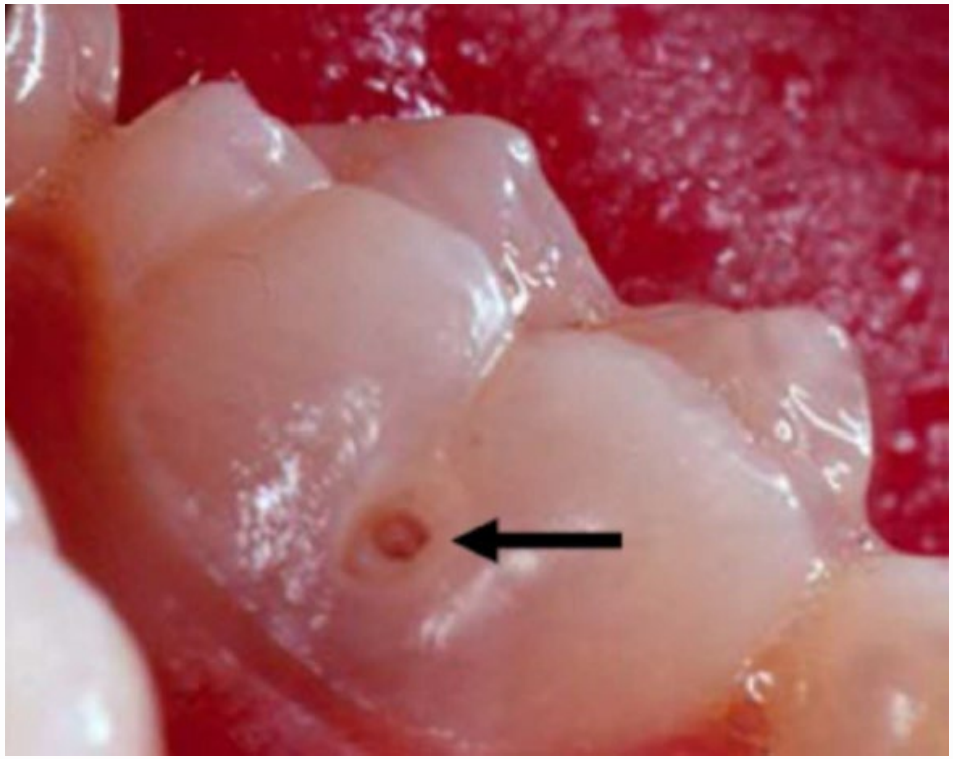

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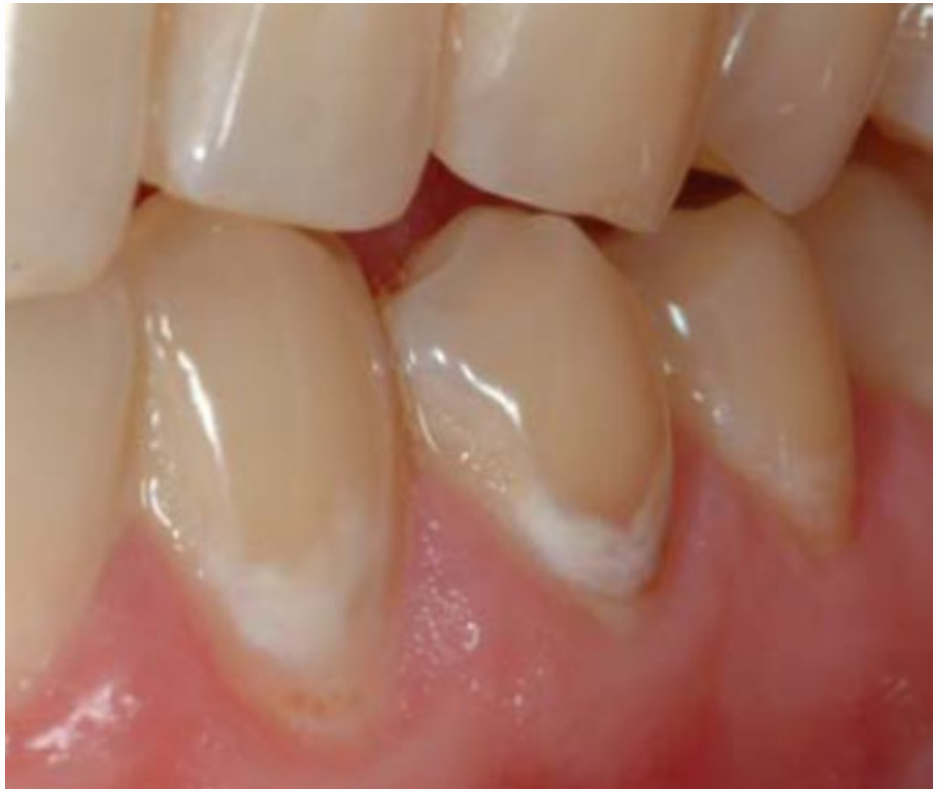

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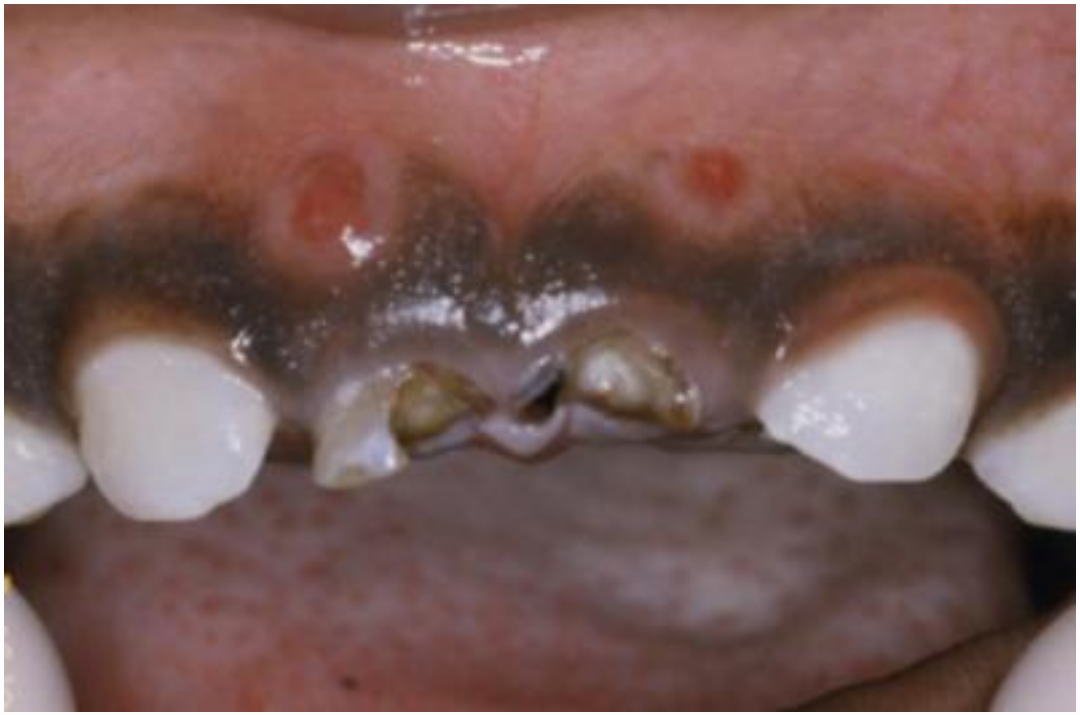

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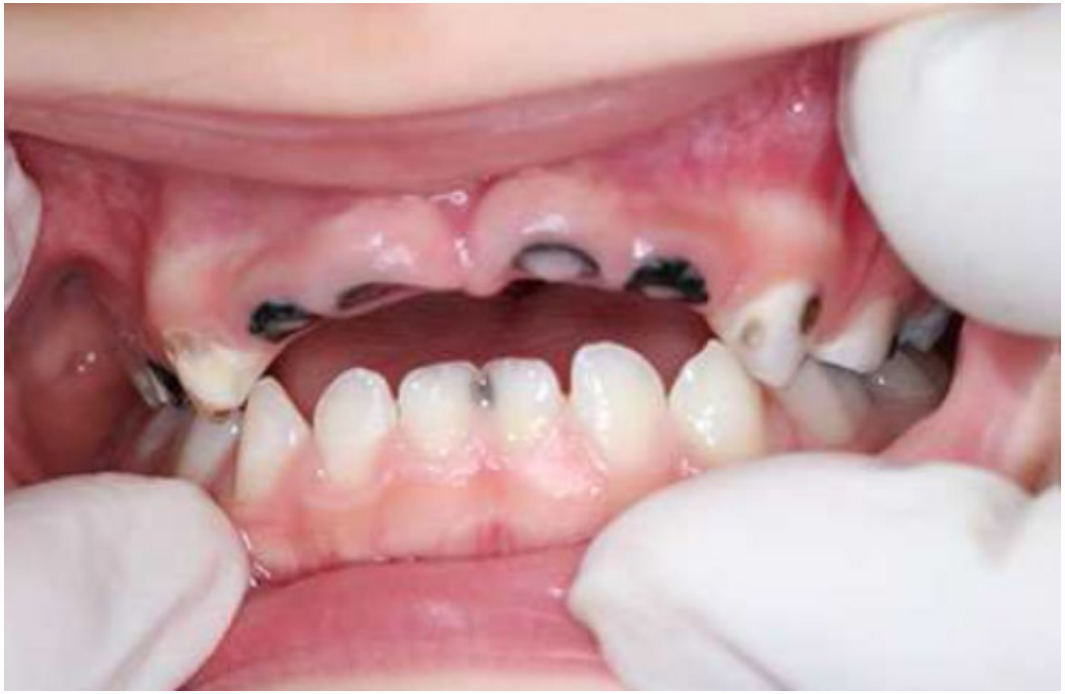

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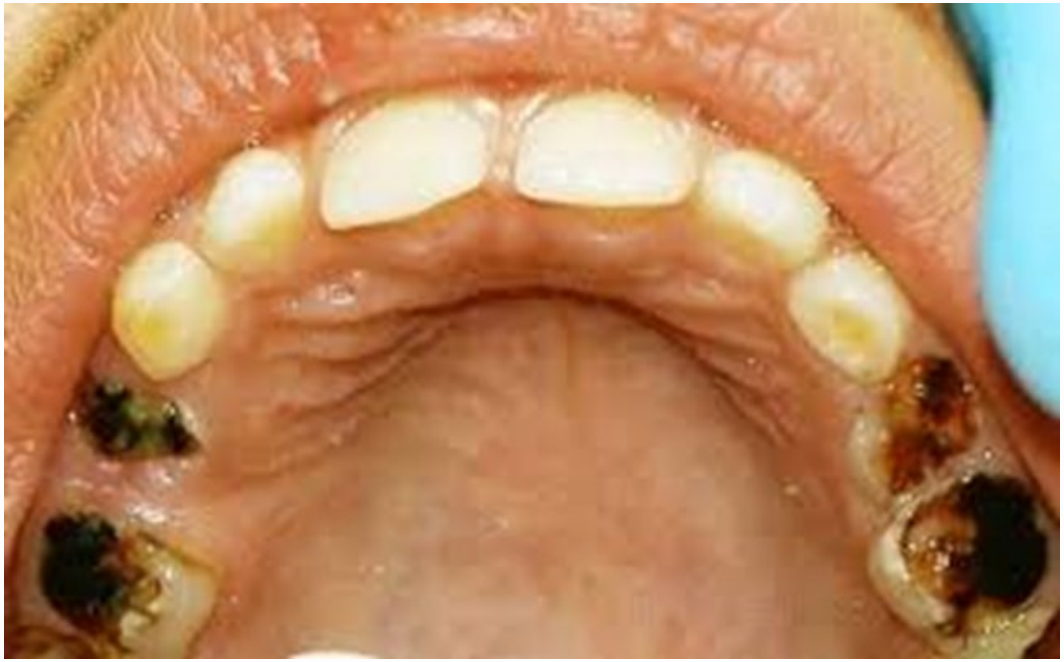

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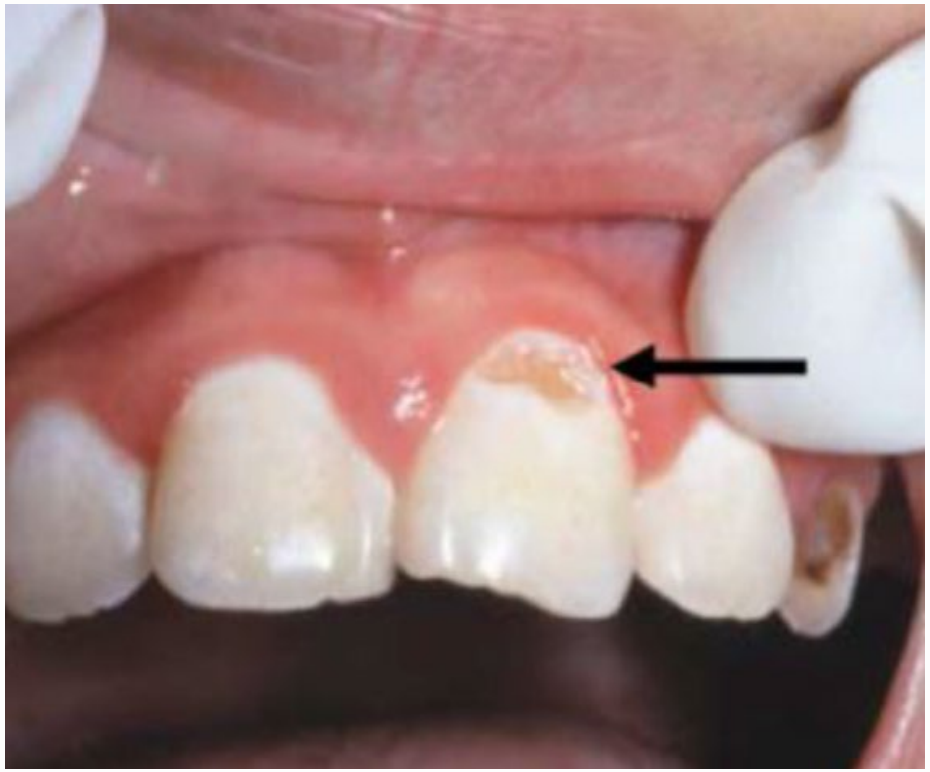

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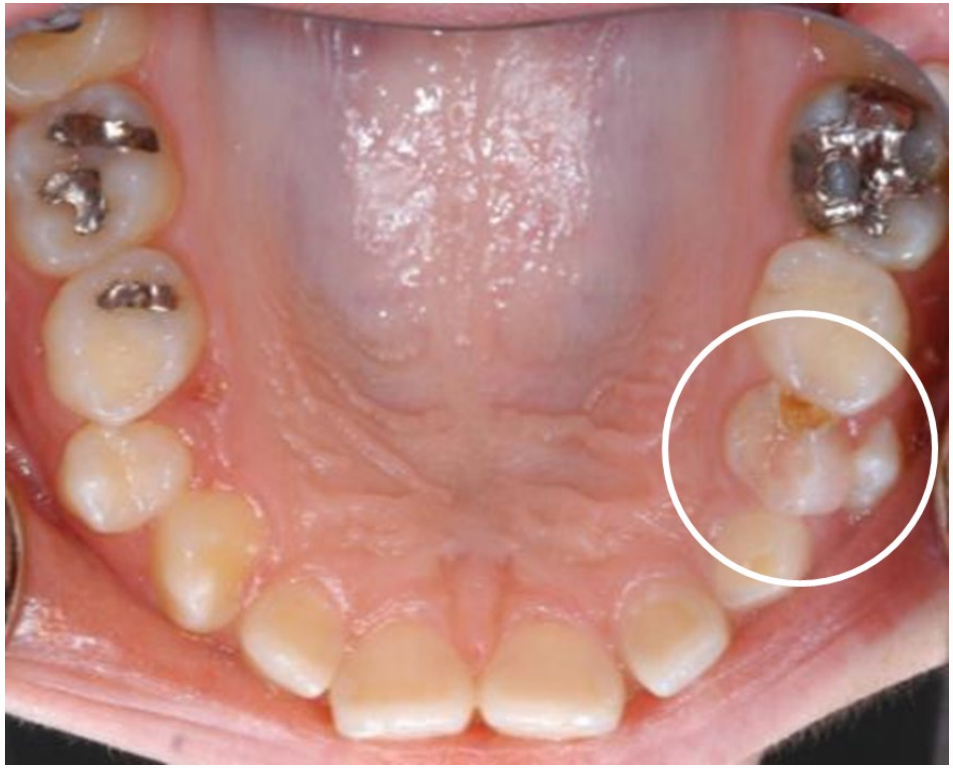

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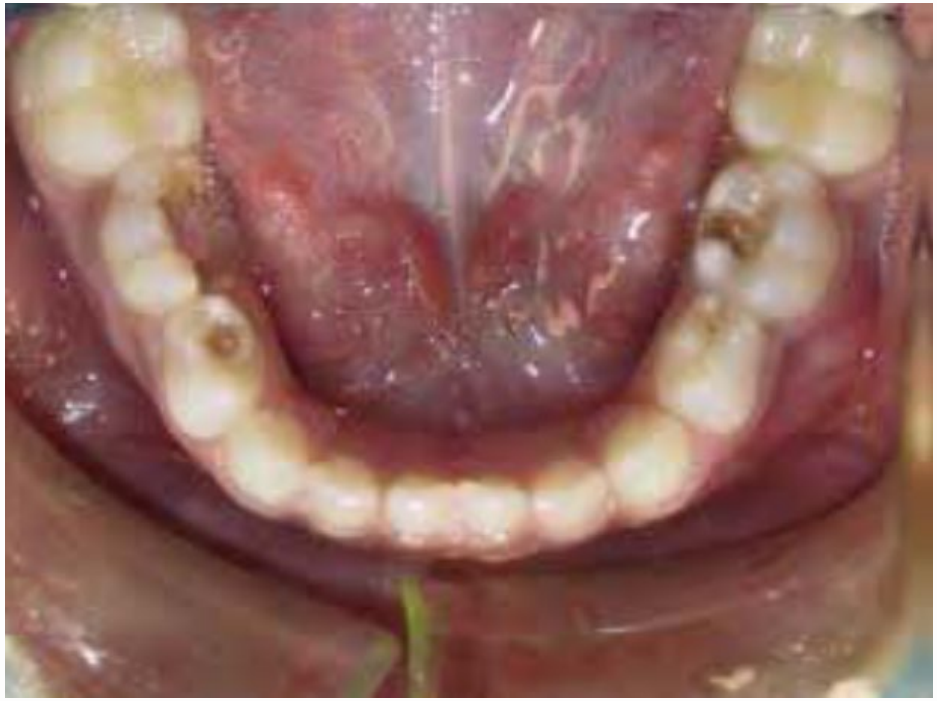

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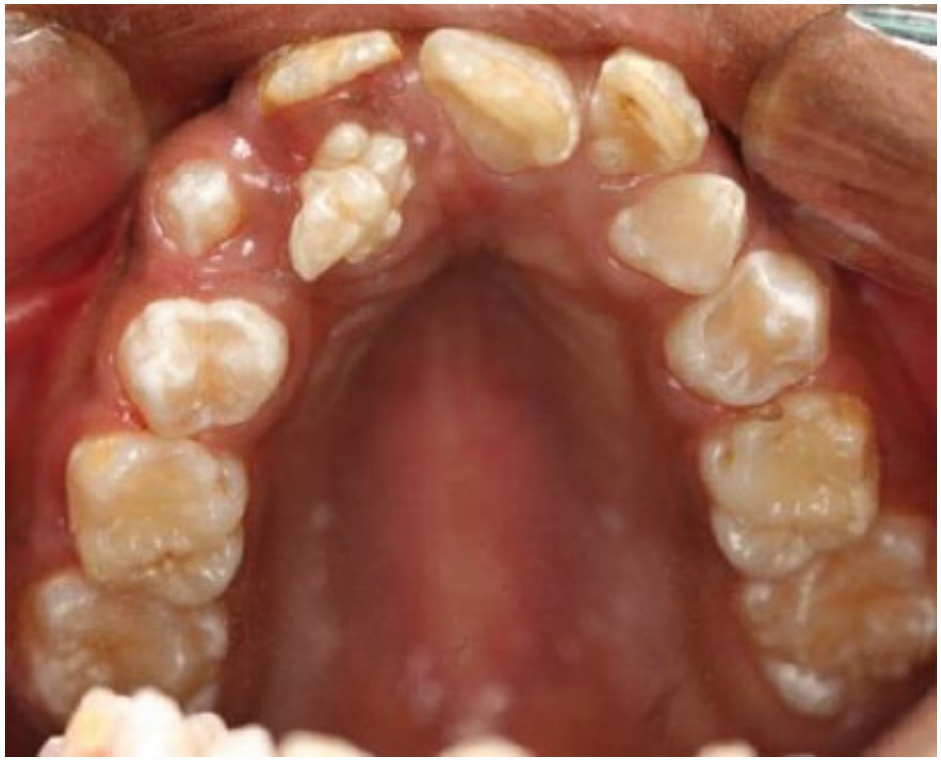

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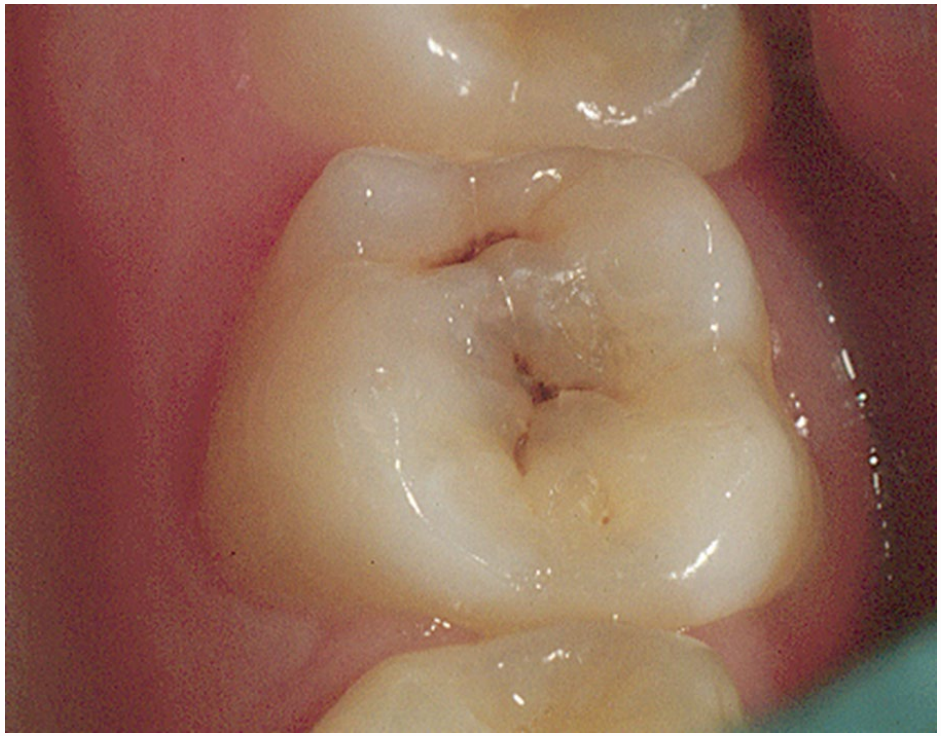

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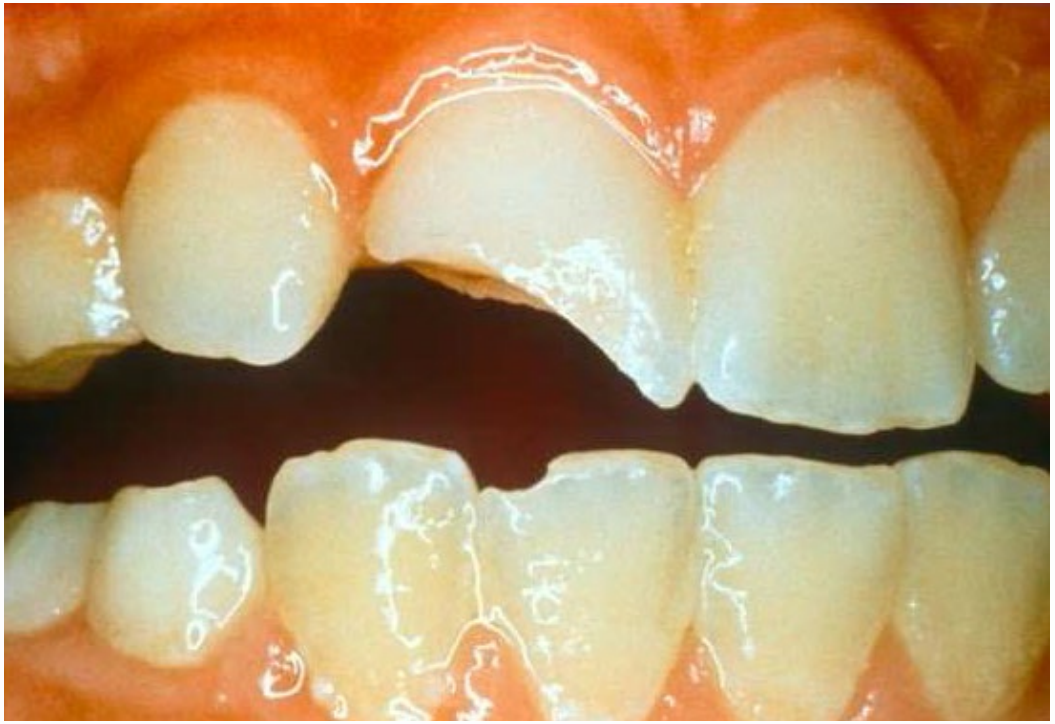

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Triaging Appropriately

One reason for standardizing our use of the BSS categories is that if a student is categorized as needing “urgent” treatment, a dentist may squeeze the student in on a Friday afternoon or weekend, only to find the tx could have waited a few weeks.

Both the local program administrators and their hygienists want the students to be seen within an appropriate period of time. What program protocols will ensure this happens?

Parent “Results” Letter

- By law, if a screening occurs, parents/guardians are to receive a letter regarding their child’s screening results.
- Put your “clinical hat” back on.
- Information on parent letter does not need to match information on screening form.
- You may add a written note to the parents – never critical, but helpful suggestions. (e.g. “There are signs of early problems. Johnnie needs some help brushing at the gum line.”)

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Oregon Board of Dentistry (direct quote)

- “The OBD adopted specific language that must be on any Oral Health Screening Form that would be given to individuals or parents or guardians of minors who would be screened.”

  “The following is the language and would need to be on any Oral Health Screening Form that would be used by **any Oregon Dental Hygienist or Dental Assistant in compliance with Oregon Law**.”

Oregon Board of Dentistry (direct quote)

This is an oral health screening for _____.
A screening is just a quick look and does not take the place of a thorough examination by a dentist. Serious oral health problems may be missed in a screening. The person doing the screening may or may not have any dental training. [*Dental Hygienists or Dental Assistants may omit the previous sentence.]*

- No visible signs of oral problems. See your dentist at least yearly.
- Visible signs of oral problems were found. A visit to a dentist is recommended to prevent serious or more costly problems.
- Visible signs or symptoms of serious dental needs were found. An immediate visit to a dentist is recommended.

https://www.oregon.gov/dentistry/pages/faq-licensees.aspx

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Questions?