

	Clinical features	Management overview
localised odontogenic infection	<p>dental pain</p> <p>abscess (localised swelling on the gum or fluctuant tissue)</p> <p>pus may be visible</p> <p>no facial swelling</p> <p>no severe or systemic features of infection</p>	<p>outpatient dental treatment</p> <p>if dental treatment is not likely to be received within 24 hours, medical practitioners can start antibiotic therapy; however, ensure the patient receives dental treatment</p>
spreading odontogenic infection without severe or systemic features	<p>facial swelling</p> <p>dental or facial pain</p> <p>abscess (localised swelling on the gum or fluctuant tissue)</p> <p>pus may be visible</p> <p>no severe or systemic features of infection</p>	<p>outpatient dental treatment followed by oral antibiotic therapy</p> <p>if dental treatment is not likely to be received within 24 hours, medical practitioners can start antibiotic therapy; however, ensure the patient receives dental treatment</p>
spreading odontogenic infection with severe or systemic features	<p>severe features such as significant facial swelling and pain, trismus, neck swelling, difficulty swallowing, difficulty breathing or airway compromise</p> <p>systemic features such as pallor, sweating, tachycardia, an axillary temperature above 38°C [NB1] or sepsis</p>	<p>provide appropriate support of airway, breathing and circulation</p> <p>urgent transfer to a hospital with an oral and maxillofacial surgeon or other appropriate expert</p> <p>surgical intervention and intravenous antibiotic therapy</p>

NB1: Oral temperatures are unreliable for infections originating in the mouth.