

# How Soon Can I See The Dentist?

When you need dental care, it is important to get it promptly. The amount of time before your appointment depends on your needs. It also depends on the type of care you need. The table below shows how soon you should be able to see a dentist. It may be OK to wait longer **if it does not harm your health**. **(Note:** A business day is usually Monday through Friday. It does not include weekends or holidays.) Make a routine care appointment to see your dentist if you are a new patient and/or have newly obtained health insurance.

| Appointment type                                | Examples                               | Wait time for appointment  |
|---|--|--|
| Initial and Routine appointment (non-emergency) | Exam, X-rays, restorative care         | 4 weeks  |
| Preventive dental care appointment              | Prophy or periodontal care             | 4 weeks  |
| Emergency appointment                           | Acute pain/swelling/bleeding           | 24 hours   |
| Specialist appointment                          | Pedodontist, endodontist, oral surgeon | 30 business days for adult members<br>30 calendar days for child members |



Need help to set up a visit or find a new dentist? We can help.

Visit [www.hndental.com](http://www.hndental.com).

Or, call:

Los Angeles County members:  
**1-844-233-4522**

Sacramento County members:  
**1-833-493-0428**

Hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm PT

TDD/TTY users should dial  
**1-800-466-7566**.

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