

# Wisdom Tooth Management

Pain or no pain:  Your wisdom teeth should be checked annually.

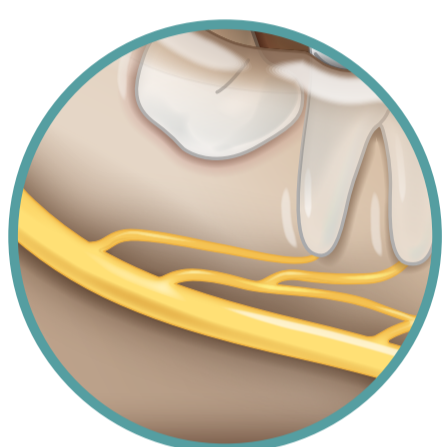
9 of 10

people have at least one impacted wisdom tooth.

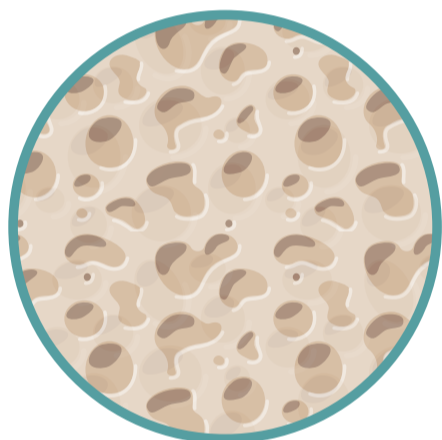


## Did you know?

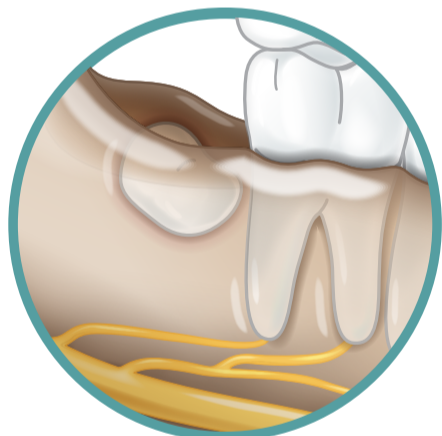
It is less complicated to remove wisdom teeth when the patient is younger because:



The roots are not completely formed.



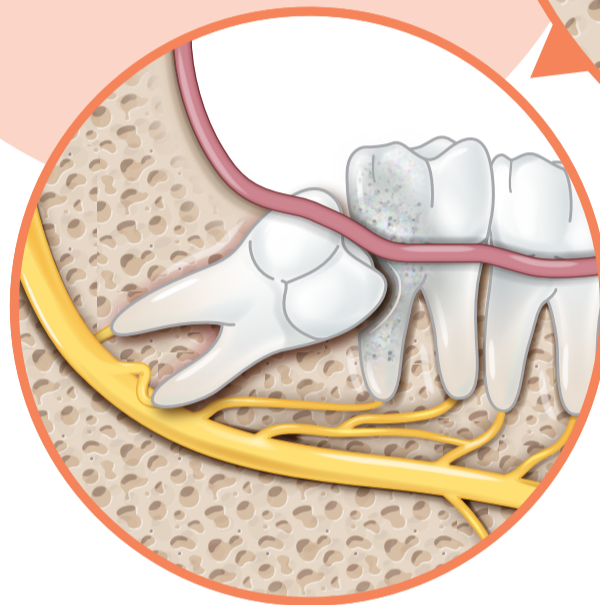
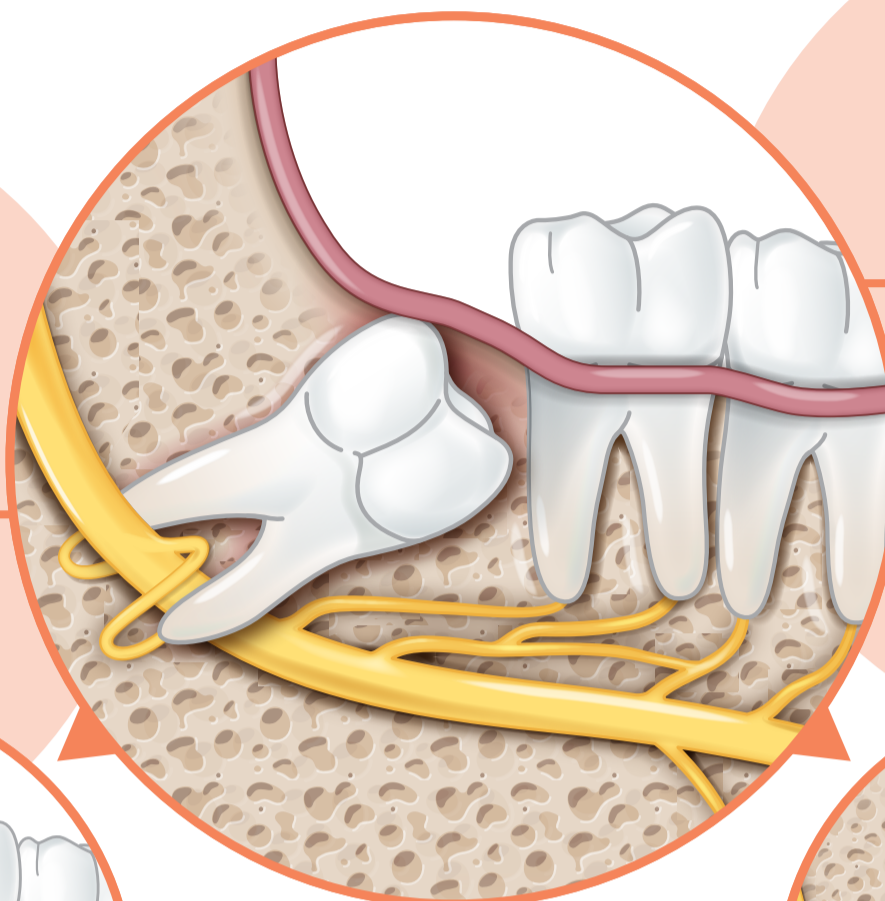
Surrounding bone is softer.



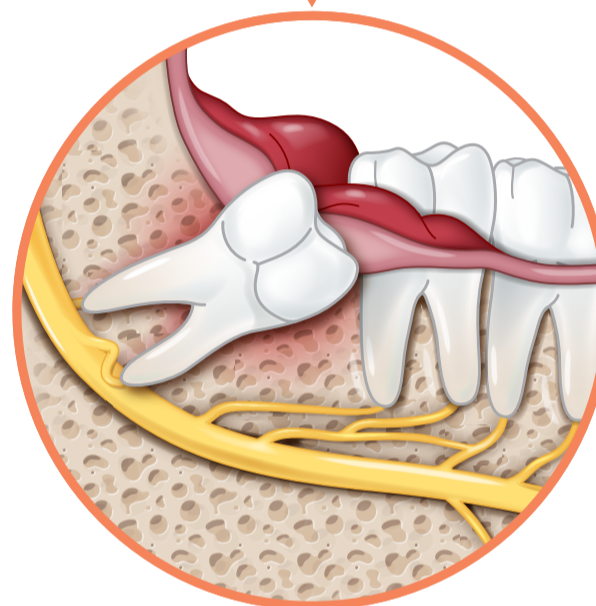
There is less chance of damaging nearby nerves or other structures.

## Is an impacted wisdom tooth serious?

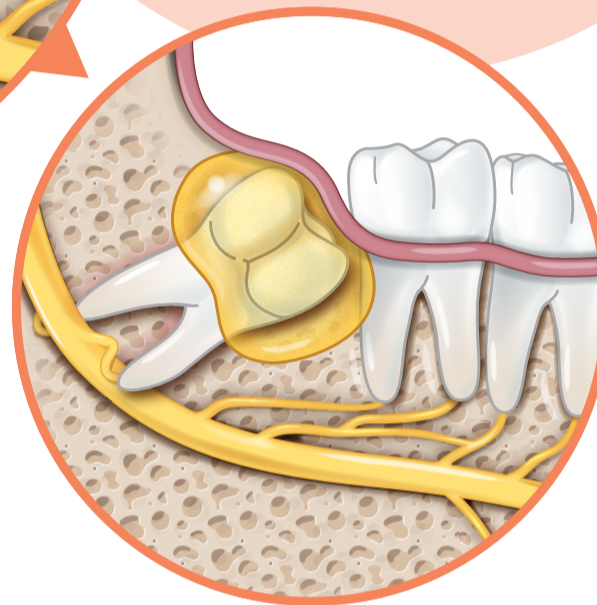
Yes! Complications can arise, including:



Damage to adjacent teeth



Infection



Formation of cysts

## What is an impacted tooth?

When wisdom teeth cannot break through the gums, or there isn't enough room for them.

## When should they be removed?

Generally, wisdom teeth should be surgically removed when there are:

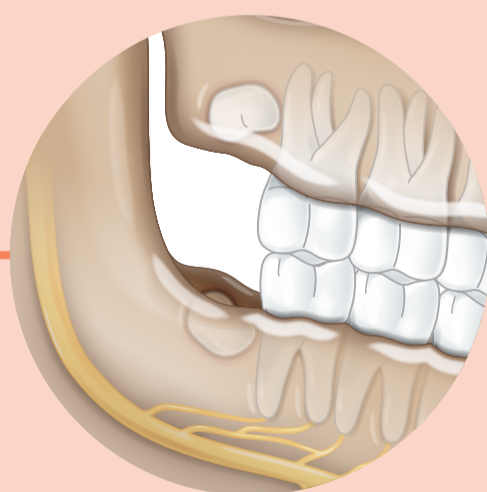
- Infections and/or periodontal (gum) disease
- Cavities that can't be restored
- Cysts, tumors or other pathologies
- Damaged neighboring teeth

## What if they are not removed?

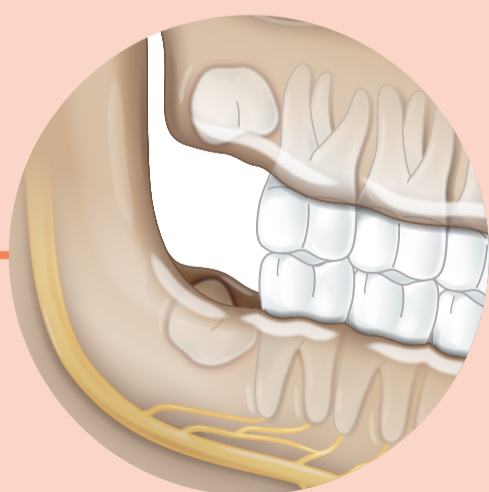
Healthy, properly positioned wisdom teeth require:

- Regular, professional cleanings
- Annual checkups
- Periodic X-rays to monitor for changes

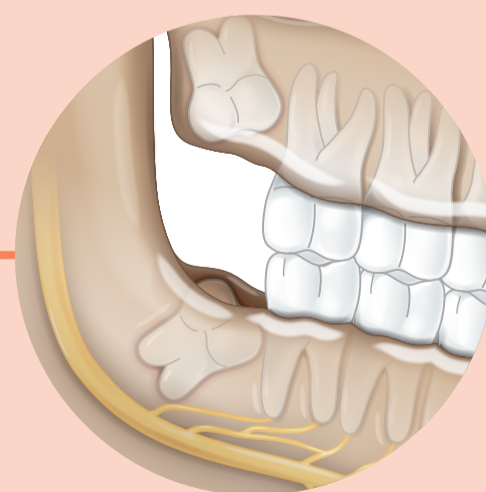
○ Third molars (known as wisdom teeth): The last teeth to develop and appear in the mouth ○



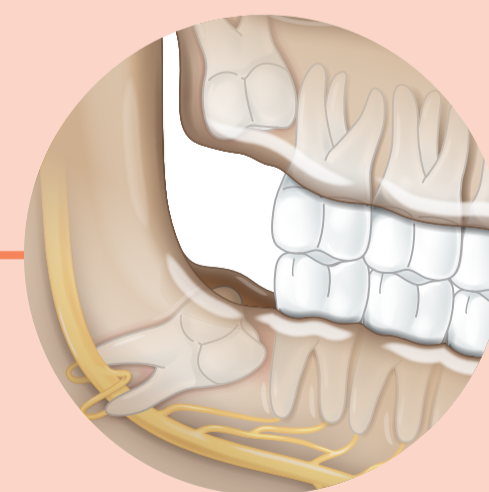
12 Years



14 Years



17 Years



25 Years

Pain-free does not necessarily mean disease-free.  
The worst thing to do is to ignore your wisdom teeth.

## "Age of Wisdom"

Ages 17 to 25, when third molars come in.



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