

Conditions Linked to Oral Health

Recent published research by reputable organizations confirms there is an important connection between oral health and overall health. Following is a brief list of conditions linked to oral health, with the studies and articles that provide scientific evidence of these connections noted.

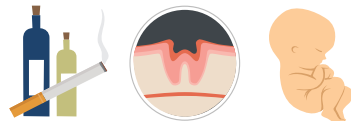
✓ Heart Disease

Controlling periodontal (gum) disease has a significant impact on reducing **Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI)** (17.8 – 24%) among individuals with this or similar conditions.¹



✓ Preterm Birth

An increasing number of studies are confirming an association between periodontal disease (PD) and adverse outcomes in pregnancy. PD places pregnant women at **greater risk** for preterm birth than alcohol consumption or smoking. This underscores the importance of offering dental screening to women who are pregnant or contemplating pregnancy and the need for physicians who provide obstetric care to be aware of the possible connection between poor dental health and poor pregnancy outcomes.³



✓ Respiratory Conditions

There is a link between gum disease and chronic respiratory conditions such as **Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)**, which includes emphysema, chronic bronchitis, and in some cases asthma.⁵



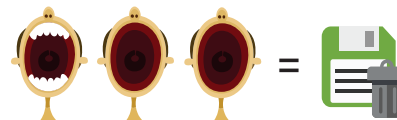
✓ Diabetes

Emerging studies indicate that periodontal (gum) disease is associated with increased risk for diabetes complications and may be associated with the development of **Type 2 diabetes**.²



✓ Dementia

A new study tested more than **4,200 individuals** and found that those who had fewer of their own teeth were at increased risk of experiencing memory loss or early-stage Alzheimer's disease.⁴



✓ Kidney Disease

End-stage renal disease (ESRD) patients have a plethora of oral findings. Symptoms include uremic odor, dry mouth, and taste change, and signs can be petechia, ecchymosis and increased tongue coating, and decreased salivary flow [3,4,5]. Osseous tumors and enlargement have also been described as manifestations of secondary hyperparathyroidism (HPT)⁶



Visit your dentist twice a year to maintain good oral health.

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¹ 2010 Study by Feira de Santana State University, Brazil, Dr. Isaac Suzart Gomes-Filho, Ph. D. Presented at International Association for Dental Research (IADR) Conference, San Diego, CA, March 15-19, 2011

² Published in Journal of Periodontology, January 20, 2011

³ Karolinska Institute Study, Dr. Birgitta Söder, October 2010

⁴ British Dental Health Foundation, Dr Nigel Carter

⁵ Published in Medical News Today, January 10, 2011

⁶ Study by, American Academy of Periodontology
Published in Journal of Periodontology, January 20, 2011

⁶ Caridorenal Med Apr 2013; 3(1) 71-78