

GUM DISEASE QUIZ

Yes No

Do your gums bleed when you brush?
Do your gums bleed when you floss?
Are your gums red, swollen, or tender?
Are your gums pulling away from your teeth?
Have your gums receded or do teeth appear longer?
Do you see pus around the gums when pressed?
Are your teeth drifting?
Do you have any loose teeth?
Do your parents have all of their teeth?
Do you notice any change in your bite?
Has the fit of your partials changed?
Do you have bad breath?

If you answered **YES** to any of the above, you may have **gum disease** (**periodontal disease**).

If it doesn't hurt, then who cares, right? Wrong! Gum disease is silent and often victims are unaware. It is a chronic bacterial infection of the gums and bone supporting the teeth. If left untreated, the disease can progress, which may lead to tooth loss. On top of that, evidence suggests that <u>people</u> <u>with periodontal disease</u> are at higher risk for developing <u>heart disease</u>, <u>stroke</u>, <u>uncontrolled diabetes</u>, <u>preterm births</u>, and <u>respiratory disease</u>. Periodontal bacteria can enter the blood stream and travel to major organs and begin new infections. This means that having regular dental check-up and any needed treatment for gum disease is important not only for your mouth, but for your overall well-being.