

How Oral Health Affects Overall Health

“Over the teeth, past the gums, look out body, here it comes!”



THE HEART

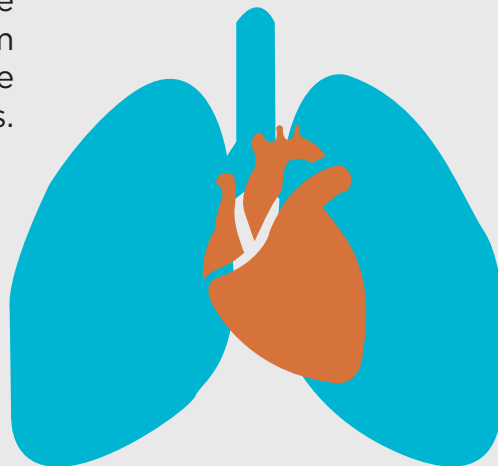
Periodontal disease may increase the risk of cardiovascular disease and fatal heart attacks. In fact, those with gum disease are almost twice as likely to suffer from heart disease as those with healthy gums.



THE BRAIN



Periodontal disease may increase the risk of stroke. Research has shown that harmful bacteria in the mouth can make a person more susceptible to developing blood clots and can eventually increase the chance of a stroke.



THE LUNGS



Poor oral health may worsen respiratory illnesses by promoting growth of harmful bacteria that can be transported to the lungs. When the germs reach the lungs, they can breed and multiply to cause pneumonia and bronchitis.



THE KIDNEYS

Bacteria often enter the body through the mouth. With poor oral care, infections progress faster. This increases the disease the kidneys must fight off.



THE PANCREAS



Diabetics are at greater risk for periodontal disease. Periodontal disease may disrupt the control of blood sugars, which can increase the likelihood of serious complications, such as heart and lung diseases.

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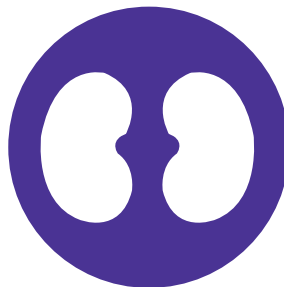
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