

Oral Health and the Human Body

Bhavik Desai
DMD PhD
VCU School of Dentistry,
Richmond, VA.

The logo for Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) is displayed in a large, bold, orange sans-serif font.

Virginia Commonwealth University

- The oral cavity is a reflection of overall health and well-being
- It is a key determinant of nutritional status, well-being and health/disease status













- A thorough oral exam can uncover nutritional deficiencies, microbial infections, immune disorders and some forms of cancer.



- Facial nerves have counterparts elsewhere in the body.
- Common nerve related disorders of the head, neck, and face

• The jaw bones and jaw joint function like other musculoskeletal regions of the body

Do you suffer from any of the following?

Head Pain, Headache

1. Forehead
2. Temples
3. "Migraine" type
4. Sinus type
5. Shooting pain up back of head
6. Hair and/or scalp painful to touch

Ear Problems

1. Hissing, buzzing or ringing
2. Decreased hearing
3. Ear pain, ear ache, no infection
4. Clogged, "itchy" ears
5. Vertigo, dizziness

Eyes

1. Pain behind eyes
2. Bloodshot eyes
3. May bulge out
4. Sensitive to sunlight

Jaw Problems

1. Clicking, popping jaw joints
2. Grating sounds
3. Pain in cheek muscles
4. Uncontrollable jaw and/or tongue movements

Mouth

1. Discomfort
2. Limited opening of mouth
3. Inability to open smoothly
4. Jaw deviates to one side when opening
5. Locks shut or open
6. Can't find bite

Neck Problems

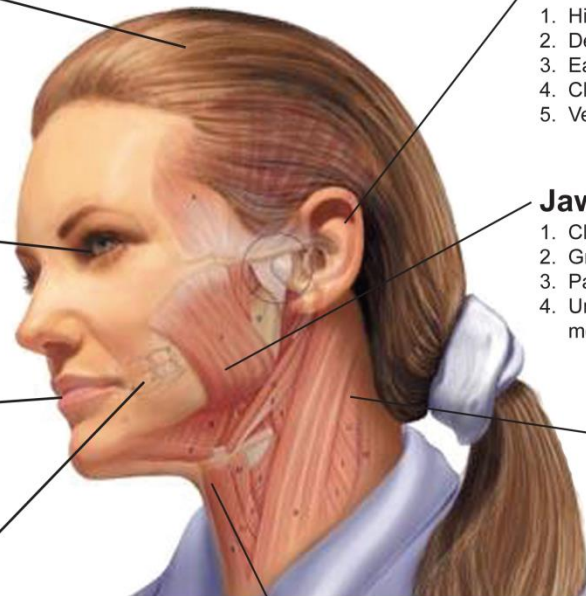
1. Lack of mobility, stiffness
2. Neck pain
3. Tired, sore muscles
4. Shoulder aches and backaches
5. Arm and finger numbness and/or pain

Teeth

1. Clenching, grinding at night
2. Looseness and soreness of back teeth

Throat

1. Swallowing difficulties
2. Laryngitis
3. Sore throat with no infection
4. Voice irregularities or changes
5. Frequent coughing or constant clearing of throat
6. Feeling of foreign object in throat constantly



- Clues to a disease can be discovered by analyzing saliva under a microscope.



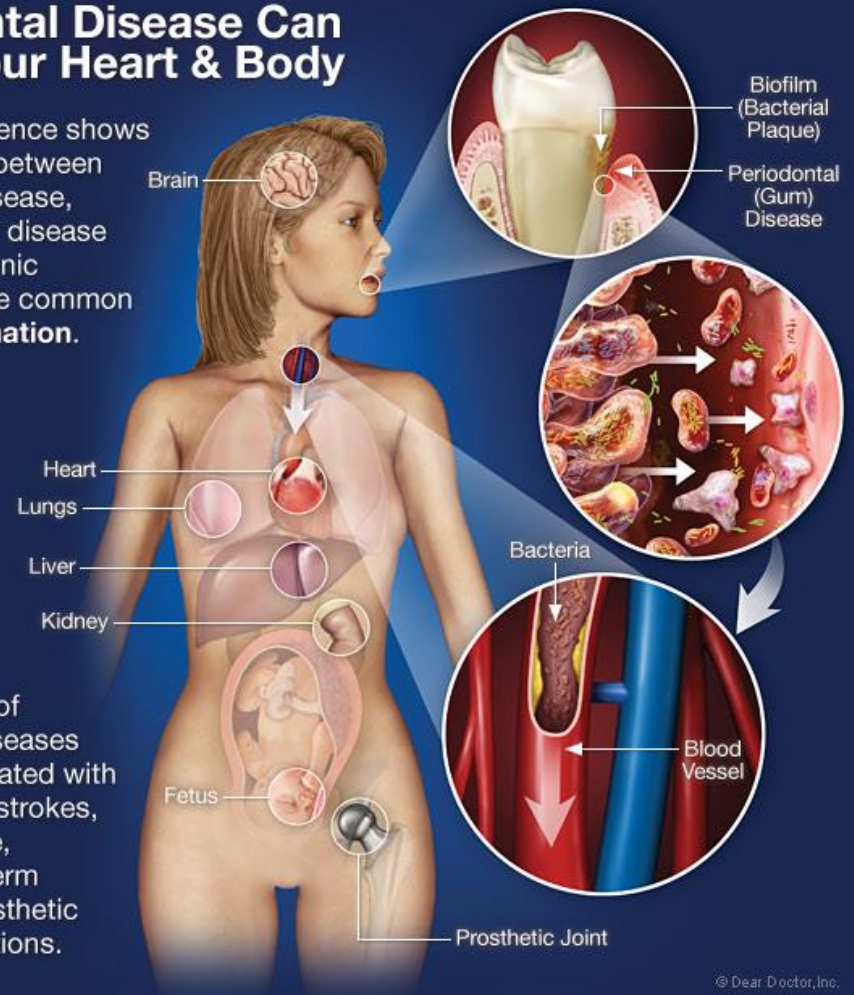
Research is showing us that disease within the mouth—especially periodontal (gum) disease—is connected to ailments throughout the body.

Infections in the mouth are a gateway for disease-causing bacteria to enter the bloodstream and provoke a number of diseases

Periodontal Disease Can Affect Your Heart & Body

Emerging evidence shows a relationship between periodontal disease, cardiovascular disease and other chronic diseases — the common link is **inflammation**.

The presence of periodontal diseases may be associated with heart attacks, strokes, kidney disease, diabetes, preterm births and prosthetic joint complications.




Heart disease and stroke



Diabetes

IF YOU HAVE **DIABETES**,
WHAT YOU PUT HERE CAN
IMPACT YOUR GUM HEALTH



People with diabetes
have a **2x greater** risk of
developing gum disease

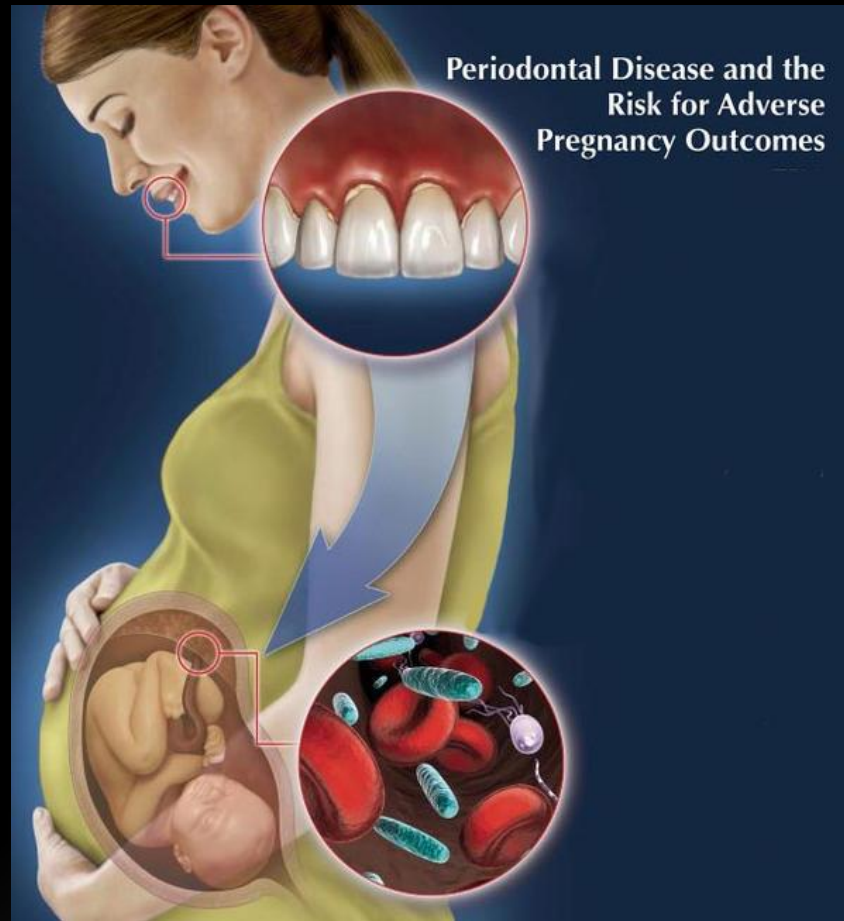


Respiratory diseases

Association between Periodontal Disease and Peptic Ulcers among Japanese Workers: MY Health Up Study

Peptic ulcers





Low birth weight and pregnancy complications



Erectile dysfunction

- Regular dental visits allow many dental problems to be prevented
- Regular dental visits may be the earliest means of detecting underlying systemic disease

In conclusion...

- QUESTIONS ?
- BHAVIK DESAI
- VCU SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY
- BDESAI@VCU.EDU
- OFFICE # 804-628-0310

The logo for Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) features the letters "VCU" in a large, bold, orange sans-serif font. The letters are set against a white rectangular background that is part of a larger white banner at the bottom of the slide.

Virginia Commonwealth University