

# SENIOR SMILES

# **CARING FOR NATURAL TEETH**

#### **Dental Caries (tooth decay)**

- Toothache, spontaneous pain or pain that occurs without any apparent cause
- Tooth sensitivity
- Mild to sharp pain when eating or drinking something sweet, hot or cold
- Change in behaviour
- Visible holes or pits in the teeth
- Broken or sharp edges on teeth
- Brown, black or white staining on any surface of a tooth
- · Pain on biting
- Food stuck in teeth





#### Plaque (Biofilm) and Calculus

Plaque - white, soft and sticky and can be removed with a toothbrush

supports bacterial growth

Calculus (tartar)- hard calcified plaque not easily removed with a toothbrush

(More common along the gum line)





#### **Gingivitis**

- 1. Gingival inflammation
- 2. Reversible condition
- 3. Change in colour where the gum and the tooth meet
- 4. Gum can become swollen
- 5. Bleeding on stimulation- probing, chewing, tooth brushing
- 6. Possibility of halitosis







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#### **Periodontitis**

- 1. Irreversible condition
- Destruction of the supporting structures of the tooth, characterised by
  - 1. tooth mobility
  - 2. gum recession (long in the tooth)
- 3. Chronic inflammatory disease
- 4. Generally no pain unless acute infection
- 5. Bidirectional link with diabetes
- 6. Association with other diseases
- 7. Systemic and local risk factors

# 1 Price stages of periododis.



#### Recession

- Receding gums ('Long in the tooth')
- Sensitivity (dentine exposure)



#### **Tooth Wear**

- Abrasion
  - External Abrasive
  - o Toothbrush
  - o Pipe
  - o pins
- Attrition
  - o Tooth to tooth contact
- Erosion
  - o Acid
  - o Reflux
  - o Beverages
  - o Chewable vitamin C







# **CARING FOR NATURAL TEETH**

#### **Practical Care**

- Each resident should be assessed individually
- Effective oral hygiene
- Oral hygiene aids
- Assistance required
- What level of assistance?



#### **Remember PPE**

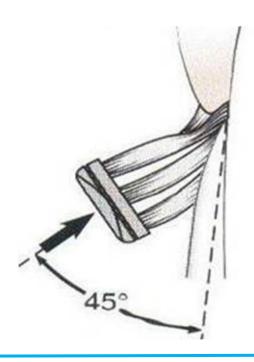
#### Protect your:

Eyes, mouth & hands when cleaning your resident's teeth



## **Tooth brushing Technique (manual)**

- Bass
  - Most popular technique
  - Bristles 45° towards the gum, where the gum and the tooth meet
  - Short strokes vibrating back and forth
- Modified Bass
  - Bass followed by sweeping down motion





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## **Tooth brushing tips**

- Brushing someone else's teeth is NOT easy
- Remember a toothbrush is made of hard plastic that can cause pain if used incorrectly
- Practice on someone that loves you!
- Look in the mouth before you start
- Lubricant for the lips
- Plan tooth brushing sequence
- Positioning and posture
- 'Lift the Lip' away from the teeth
- Bend or remodel toothbrush
- Pea size amount of fluoride toothpaste
- Brush gum margins and teeth
- Rinse brush regularly if required





## **Toothbrush Options**













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