Degenerative Brain Disease and Oral Health

What you should know and what your dentist might want to know

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Neurologic disease: effects on oral health

- Xerostomia (dry mouth, Sjögren's syndrome).
- Pain and difficulty opening.
- Oral effects of medications.
- Psychological effects (depression, self image).
- Gastro-Eosophageal Reflux (GERD)
Tooth Decay can be a problem
Medications may affect your mouth

• Xerostomia
• Oral lesions
• Burning mouth
• Candidiasis
• Bleeding
• Taste changes
• Swollen gums
Risk Factors for Aspiration Pneumonia

- GERD
- Swallowing problems- Dysphagia
- Tongue thrust
- Immobility
- Spinal deformities
- Tube feeding
Function?

- Avoidance
- Attention Seeking
- Denied Request
- Requesting
- Coping
- Transition
- Dietary
- Health
- Fatigue
- Sensory overload
- Pain
- Confusion

Setting?

Trachs
Feeding tubes,
Shunts

Vocal Cords
Aspirated Material
Inflated Cuff
Gastronomy children were significantly more likely to have calculus

Calculus was significantly related to aspiration pneumonia

Personal oral hygiene to reduce calculus may be ineffective
Open Wide® Mouth Rests

- Wedge-shape accommodates most patients
- Rigid inner core adds stability and strength
- Foam handle provides comfort and control
- Handle-end can also be used for check retraction
Oral Hygiene Helpers

Surround® Toothbrushes

Available on Amazon.com

Surround® Toothbrush (Pack of 4)

Price: $10.99 (4.25 / item) & FREE Shipping on orders over $35. Details

In Stock

Sold by Specialized Care Co Inc and Fulfilled by Amazon. Gift-wrap available.

Want it Wednesday, Sept. 9? Order within 2 hrs 21 mins and choose Two-Day Shipping at checkout. Details

- 3-bristle pads at different angles clean all surfaces of the teeth at once, saving time and making easier work of necessary dental care.
- A perfect choice for anyone who wants a thorough brushing for healthy teeth, ideal for parents and professionals who provide oral hygiene to people with autism or other special needs.
- Entire head and handle are covered with a non-slip cushion grip, and the handle is longer to keep fingers safe.
- Has soft end-rounded real bristles and heart-shaped compact head. Comes with a reusable cover.
- It's never too early to think about Stocking Stuffers. These make good ones!
Flossing Helpers

The Palliative Care Patient

- Mucositis and Stomatitis
- Nausea and Vomiting
- Cadidiasis
- Xerostomia
Ideas for your dentist

• Be patient - it can be challenging for both of you
• Shorten drills
• Consider a mouth prop
• Short appointments with breaks
• Assist you with mouth stretching

What your dentist might worry about

• Make sure you bring a complete list of your medications and doctors
• Limited Mouth Opening
• Immune System Compromise
• Make sure you tell your dentist what makes you comfortable and uncomfortable
Two great products that your dentist can apply and help prevent gum disease and cavities.
Silver Diamine Fluoride

Thank You!