End of Life Specialist Services

MOUTH CARE ASSESSMENT

Sirona care & health

Do they have:	**Consider:**
*** Toothbrush** *** Toothpaste** *** Upper denture** *** Lower denture**	• **Fully dependent on others for mouth care** • **Some assistance required e.g. unable to get to sink** • **Fully independent and can walk to sink**

Patients with **NO TEETH**, **NIL BY MOUTH** or **DYSPHAGIA** still require **REGULAR MOUTH CARE**

Does the patient have any pain or discomfort in the mouth? Y/N/Why

	Low Risk	Medium Risk	High Risk
Lips	Pink & moist	Dry/cracked Difficulty opening mouth	Swollen Ulcerated
Action	None	Dry mouth care	Refer to ACP or GP
Tongue	Pink & moist	Dry/fissured/shiny Coated tongue Secretions on tongue	Looks abnormal White coating Very sore/ulcerated
Action	None	Dry mouth care, brush tongue	Refer to ACP or GP
Teeth/gums	Clean No broken/loose teeth	Unclean Broken teeth (no pain) Bleeding/inflamed gums	Severe pain Facial swelling
Action	2 x daily tooth-brushing	2 x daily tooth-brushing & clean the mouth	Refer to ACP or GP
Cheeks/palate/ under tongue	Clean Saliva present Looks healthy	Mouth dry Sticky secretions Food debris Ulcer <10 days	Very dry/painful Ulcer>10 days Widespread ulceration Looks abnormal
Action	None	Clean the mouth/dry mouth care/ulcer care	Refer to ACP or GP
Dentures	Clean Comfortable	Unclean Loose Patient will not remove	Lost Broken and unable to wear
Action	Clean daily	Denture cleaning, fixative, encourage daily removal to allow mouth to breathe	Refer to dentist or Line Manager for guidance

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Mouth Care Matters

Mouth care assessment guide

NHS
Health Education England

Lips	Pink & moist	Dry, cracked, difficulty opening the mouth	Swollen, ulcerated
Action	None	Dry mouth care	Refer to DOCTOR
Tongue	Pink & moist	Dry, fissured, shiny	Looks abnormal, white coating, very sore/ulcerated
Action	None	Dry mouth care	Refer to DOCTOR
Teeth & Gums	Clean, teeth not broken or loose	Unclean, broken teeth (no pain), bleeding/inflamed gums	Severe pain, facial swelling
Action	2x daily toothbrushing	Daily toothbrushing, clean the mouth	Refer to DOCTOR
Cheeks, Palate & under the Tongue	Clean, saliva present, looks healthy	Mouth dry, sticky secretions, food debris, ulcers <10 days	Very dry/painful, ulcers >10 days, widespread ulceration, looks abnormal
Action	None	Clean the mouth, dry mouth care, ulcer care	Refer to DOCTOR
Denture	Clean & Comfortable	Unclean, loose, patient will not remove	Lost
Action	Clean daily	Denture care, encouragement	DATIX if lost, refer to dental team if lost or broken