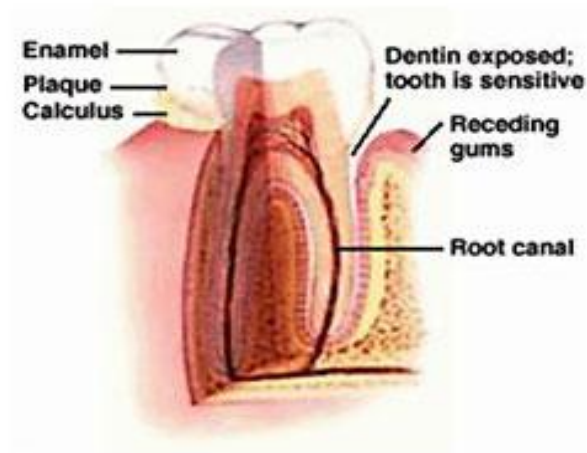


Dental Factsheets

Gum Disease or Periodontitis

Gum disease is the most common cause of tooth loss in adults.



Signs of Gum Disease

Bleeding Gums

Puffy 'glossy' surface

Recent tooth spacing

Mobile teeth

Rarely painful, unless advanced

Prevention

Regular tooth brushing Flossing

Interdental Tepe Brushes

Regular Professional cleanings and check-ups

Use disclosing Tablets

Hard deposits around the teeth are calcified soft debris (plaque). If cleaning is really good then the hard deposits (calculus) is minimal. The plaque (a mixture of salivary deposits and food debris) has a very high bacteria level and the toxins from the germs invade the gum and cause it to swell and bleed easily. Plaque hardens onto the neck of the teeth if not removed efficiently and regularly and then becomes an excellent base for more plaque. Untreated, the gum and bone recedes down the root surfaces and eventually the teeth become loose and fall out.

Gum disease eventually results in spaces called pockets between the teeth, the gum and bone. The deeper the pockets, the less support there is for the teeth and the more chance of tooth loss.