Gum Disease - Periodontal Disease

Gum or Periodontal Disease is a mouth disease that can be passed between people. It causes bad breath, bleeding gums, loose teeth, and teeth to be lost.

STAGES OF THE DISEASE:

**HEALTH**
- Gums are pink & firm
- No gum bleeding
- Teeth don’t move

**GINGIVITIS**
- Gums are red, swollen, bleed, and tender
- Bad breath develops
- Disease is reversible

**PERIODONTAL DISEASE**
- Damage has happened
- Gums and bone are lost
- Teeth get “pockets” and may begin to move

**ADVANCED DISEASE**
- More damage occurs
- Teeth become loose
- Teeth may need to be taken out

*Photos courtesy of Dr. G. Todd Smith*
Medical Conditions and Gum Disease
...they are related!

**DIABETES - complications**

- Increases gingivitis and periodontal disease
- Increases cavities
- Makes sugar (blood-glucose) levels worse
- Slows healing more
- Dries your mouth
- Gives burning mouth and tongue
- Increases fungus infections in the mouth

Gum disease increases the risk of:

**HEART ATTACKS**

**HIGH CHOLESTEROL**

**STROKES**

**PNEUMONIA**

**COPD**

**LUNG INFECTIONS**

and MANY other medical conditions as well

A Healthy Mouth means A Healthy Body