

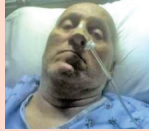
















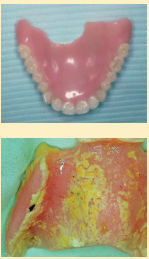




Mouth Care Risk Assessment

A visual aid to support the 1000 Lives Plus Mouth Care Risk Assessment

Category	Low Risk Healthy Score 0 Care Plan A	Medium Risk Changes Score 1 Care Plan B	High Risk Unhealthy Score 2 Care Plan C
1 Health Status	 <p>Alert, able to eat and drink unaided.</p>	 <p>Apathetic, intermittent systemic pain / dysphagia. Requires nutritional support e.g. help with feeding / supplements or tube fed.</p>	 <p>Unable to co-operate, unconscious, intubated, severe pain, no nutritional or fluid intake, oxygen therapy, mouth breathing.</p>
2 Level of support for mouth care	 <p>No help required. Self caring.</p>	 <p>Requires assistance with mouth care: - verbal / physical prompting / hand on hand support.</p>	 <p>Dependent on others for mouth care and may require more than 1 person to assist.</p>
3 Lips, Tongue and Soft Tissues (inside the mouth)	 <p>Smooth, intact, moist. Tongue not coated.</p>	 <p>Ulcer inside the lower lip.</p> <p>Lips dry, chapped, coated, or broken at corners of mouth. Localised ulcer. Tongue dry, patchy, inflamed, coated.</p>	 <p>Bleeding / blistered lips. Lump / white or red area / painless ulcer longer than 3 weeks. Multiple ulcers, very sore mouth. Mucositis. Oral Candida infection (Thrush).</p>
4 Saliva	 <p>Soft tissues moist, watery and free flowing saliva.</p>	 <p>Soft tissues dry & sticky, little saliva present, patient reports occasional dry mouth.</p>	 <p>Soft tissues very dry, little or no saliva present: saliva is thick, ropy, tenacious secretions, patient complains of dry mouth.</p>
5 Gums and Oral Cleanliness	 <p><i>The colour of gums varies with ethnic origin</i></p> <p>Gums firm, moist, no bleeding. Mouth clean no food or visible plaque on teeth or dentures.</p>	 <p>Gums bleed on brushing, shiny, swollen. One ulcer or sore spot under denture. Visible food/plaque/tartar in 1 or 2 areas or on small area of denture(s), occasional bad breath.</p>	 <p>Pain, constant bad breath, loose teeth. Visible food/plaque/tartar, in most areas of the mouth or on denture(s).</p> <p><i>Tartar or calculus on teeth.</i></p>
6 Natural Teeth	 <p>No decayed or broken teeth / roots or no natural teeth.</p>	 <p>Decayed, broken, worn-down teeth or roots - No verbal, physical or behavioural signs of pain.</p>	 <p>Decayed or broken teeth / roots / continuous pain and affecting health. Physical signs such as swelling of cheek or gum, ulcers, 'gum boil', as well as verbal and/or behavioural signs.</p>
7 Dentures Dentures lost in hospital - report on Incident Form	 <p>Dentures clean and intact or no dentures.</p>	 <p>Dentures not clean / 1 broken area / tooth. Patient reports some problem but not affecting health.</p>	 <p>Dentures very loose or painful. Patient unable to cope with dentures due to health problem e.g. stroke.</p>

 = refer to medical team or follow local procedure for urgent dental referral.

For further information, visit www.1000livesplus.wales.nhs.uk/mouthcare

