

Medical Risks of Periodontal Infection



-The risk of developing heart disease was increased by **168%** in those who had periodontal infection. Patients with periodontitis are **72% more likely** to have coronary heart disease...mortality is 2.12 times more likely.

-The risk of stroke is **2.5 times as high** in people with periodontal infection...only the dental factor is causative and significant.

-Patients with serious periodontal disease were at **double risk** of having a precancerous lesion and **four times the risk** of having an oral tumor of any kind, compared to people with healthy gums.

Heart Disease

Fatal Coronary Heart Disease

Stroke

Oral Cancer

Pre-Term Birth

Diabetes

Rheumatoid Arthritis

Pneumonia Aspiration

-Individuals with rheumatoid arthritis have a greater prevalence of advanced forms of periodontal infection, and vice-versa.

-Treatment of periodontal infection reduces the level of glycosylated hemoglobin, thus improving the metabolic control of diabetes mellitus.

-A common route of infection by oral microorganisms is through aspiration of fluids containing pathogenic microorganisms which may infect the lower respiratory tract and cause pneumonia.

-The odds of spontaneous preterm birth are **sevenfold** if severe periodontal infection is present. Periodontal infection can be as deleterious to the mother and fetus as smoking and alcohol abuse.



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