

# ANNUAL ORAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT



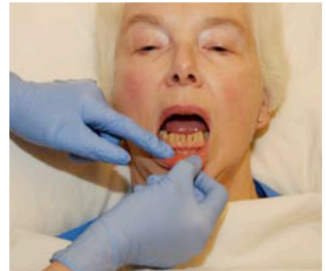
**A resident's oral status should be assessed on a regular basis, and in a routine and methodical manner**

Each new resident entering a care facility should have an assessment completed prior to the development of their initial care plan. **All residents should have their oral health assessed annually by a member of the nursing staff.** Ideally annual assessments will be completed to coincide with annual care conferences.

The Oral Health Assessment Tool (OHAT) is a widely accepted validated tool for assessing various aspects of oral health status. This quick and easy one page document is used to identify common healthy and unhealthy conditions associated with the mouth tissues and dentures.

The 8 categories we will examine are:

- LIPS NATURAL
- TONGUE -
- GUM & TISSUES
- ORAL CLEANLINESS
- TEETH
- DENTURE(S)
- SALIVA
- DENTAL PAIN



**At the top of the page** write the date, resident's name, and indicate if this assessment is:  
1) an **ADMISSION** assessment,  
2) an **ANNUAL** assessment  
3) a **FOLLOW-UP** assessment being completed on a resident who requires more attention to their oral health

The OHAT is divided into columns:

**Category:** the areas and conditions to be examined

**Assessment columns:** Any section in these columns that is underlined with a star indicates that a dental professional should be consulted to assess the issue.

**0 = HEALTHY:** the resident has good oral health; no intervention required

**1 = CHANGES:** some changes are apparent; an intervention or referral is required

**2 = UNHEALTHY:** the oral cavity is unhealthy; referral is required.

**Score:** add up the score from the assessment columns

**Action Required:** based on the score, indicate if referral and/or intervention is required

**Action Completed:** indicate if the referral or intervention been completed

**At the bottom of the page** there is space for follow-up and referral. The Oral Hygiene Care Plan should be updated based on the results of the OHAT. A resident with abnormal findings may need to have a follow-up assessment completed within the year. If referral to an oral health professional was recommended and the resident or a family member refuses the referral, there is a space for them to indicate why they refused and to sign.



**SEE EDUCATIONAL VIDEO #5 FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO COMPLETE THIS ASSESSMENT**