

DAILY ORAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT



Providing daily oral care to residents also presents an important opportunity to check the mouth for any abnormalities.



Before providing daily oral care, we ask that you take 60 seconds to do a quick 'check' of the resident, patient, or client's mouth. Use the following principles to guide you:

LOOK: Look in the mouth for any abnormalities. Look at the teeth, the roof of the mouth, the floor of the mouth, all sides of the tongue, inside the cheeks and lips, and along the gumline. If the resident has dentures or partials, remove them from the mouth and inspect them for any loose or broken pieces.

FEEL: Feel along the gum line and in the cheeks. DO NOT put your fingers between the teeth.

TELL: If you notice something abnormal:
1) fill out the Daily Oral Health Assessment Form,
2) put it in the resident's file,
3) TELL your supervisor.

An abnormality would be considered anything new, or that wasn't there before. It may present as red or white patches, swelling/lumps, loose teeth, etc. Using the legend provided, simply mark on the mouth-diagram **what you've noticed and where**. Place your name and date on the card. This will provide a recorded timeline of any changes occurring in the resident's mouth.

Any abnormalities that do not resolve themselves within 14 days should be looked at by a dental professional.

LEGEND	
(R)	RED PATCHES
(W)	WHITE PATCHES
~	LUMPS, BUMPS OR SWELLING
(S)	SORES
(B)	BLEEDING
☆	LOOSE/BROKEN TOOTH

Daily assessment forms only need to be completed when something abnormal is found. Completed cards are then to be placed in the resident's file. Since there are many tasks that must be completed while in the washroom with the resident, we recommend completing this form as soon as possible once you have completed care for that resident.

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

