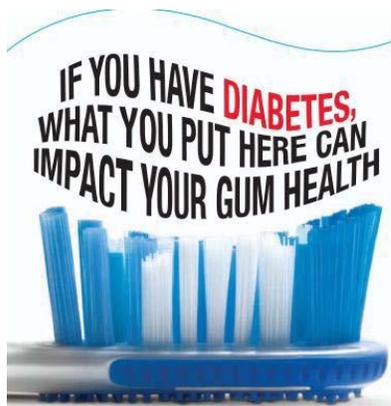


If you or someone you know has diabetes, you already are aware how important it is for diabetic patients to monitor the status of their diabetes and maintain diabetic (blood sugar) control with diet and exercise. You may however not be aware that good oral health not only keeps your mouth and gums free of disease, but has been shown to have a significant positive impact on diabetic control.

Diabetic patients are three to four times more likely to develop chronic periodontal infections. As with other infections in the body, periodontal infections impair our body's ability to process and/or utilize insulin which then makes diabetes more difficult to control. In addition, periodontal infections tend to be more severe in diabetic patients than someone free of

diabetes. All infections cause an increase blood sugar levels that increases the time when a diabetic's blood sugar level are to high. Consequently, it is important for diabetic patients to have their periodontal status effectively treated and periodontal infection eliminated as part of a program to achieve optimal control of their blood sugar levels.



People with diabetes have a **2x greater** risk of developing gum disease

Treatment options for diabetic patients vary depending on their level of diabetic control and the severity of the existing periodontal damage. For well controlled diabetic patients, periodontal treatment is similar to a non-diabetic patient's treatment. In the early stages of periodontal disease, treatment usually

involves a thorough meticulous below the gum cleaning (scaling) and tatar (calculus) removal along the too-root surfaces both above and below the gums. More advanced cases typically require additional treatments. The positive news is that periodontal therapy has been shown to conclusively improve blood sugar levels in patients and may decrease their need for insulin.

Research is ongoing regarding the linkage between diabetes and periodontal diseases however, we now can state that the link between them is a two way street. By visiting Dr. Novack today, you will receive the advice to get on the right side of the street and ensure that you are directed along a path that leads to a life of good oral and overall health.



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