

# DENTAL QUESTION



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## QUESTION

What are the benefits of regular dental check ups?

## ANSWER

Not just a check up anymore. Most people don't realize all that goes on during your regular dental visit. Not only are we checking the health of your teeth and gums but your overall oral health.

At the heart of dentistry is preventative care. There are many conditions that, when caught early, help prevent not only extra visits and costs but also to improve overall general health. This includes for example screening for gum disease, oral cancers, and developmental conditions. In many recent studies, gum disease has been linked with certain heart conditions, stroke, and even diabetes. Pregnant women should also be aware that gum disease has also been linked to low birth weight babies.

Oral cancer still affects a large portion of the North American population. More than thirty-five thousand cases are diagnosed each year. Fortunately, early detection of oral cancer results in far better outcomes versus a diagnosis in its later stages.

Regular visits help in early detection of potential problems and save from larger issues. Only your dentist can diagnose your oral conditions and recommend treatment options.

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