

Word of Mouth

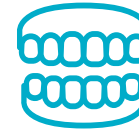
The importance of oral health

Oral health is connected to overall health.

Poor oral health has been linked to heart disease, diabetes, and kidney disease.

More than **90%**

of all systemic diseases are linked to oral health.¹ Poor oral health can lead to and escalate serious overall health issues.



Patients with even mild periodontal disease were

2X

as likely to have a stroke compared to those with healthy mouths.¹

Oral health is critically important.

Dentists and dental hygienists are powerful allies for your overall health and well-being.

The mouth can serve as an important early-warning detection system for more than **120** diseases.²



Fewer than

40%

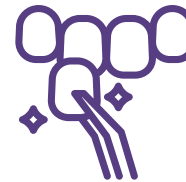
of working-age adults are seeing a dentist in any given year.³

Not enough people go to the dentist.

Visits to dentists among working-age adults are at an all-time low across the United States.³

75%

of Americans have some form of gum disease.²



Untreated, often preventable oral diseases send more than **2.1 million Americans** to the emergency room each year, costing the health care system **\$1.9 billion** annually.⁵

Poor oral health comes at a cost—to your wallet and to your health.

Take care of your oral health to help avoid serious and costly health problems.

An untreated cavity can cost you more than **\$6,000** over the course of your lifetime.⁴



The good news is cavities and periodontal disease are nearly

100% preventable.

¹ "Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities Study," University of South Carolina School of Medicine, 2017

² "Importance of Oral Health to Overall Health," Academy of General Dentistry, February 2017

³ "Dental Care Utilization Steady Among Working-Age Adults and Children, Up Slightly Among the Elderly," Health Policy Institute Research, October 2016

⁴ Delta Dental of California's data of commercially insured patients (January-June 2012)