

THE ORAL HEALTH BLUEPRINT

How Your Mouth Holds the Key
to Whole-Body Health

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Forbes

WSVN 7

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Why I wrote this

I became a dentist to help people, but as the years passed, I started questioning whether I really was.

I followed everything I was taught in school. I used the best materials, did high-quality work, and yet... my patients still needed more treatment. Fillings turned into crowns. Crowns turned into root canals. Root canals turned into extractions. And insurance? It only seemed to cover the bare minimum, never the treatment that would actually keep teeth strong for life.

I couldn't ignore it anymore. This system wasn't built for prevention, it was built for repeat business.

I knew I had two choices: continue down this path, or find a better way.

That moment changed everything.

I spent years researching, training, and testing new techniques, searching for a way to break the cycle. And what I found changed my practice forever.

What you're holding in your hands is the result of those years of work.

This guide is more than just tips on brushing and flossing. It's the blueprint for a completely different kind of dentistry, one that protects not just your smile, but your whole body.

And the results? They speak for themselves.

At my practice, **my patients now need 86.5% fewer root canals and 90% fewer crowns** than they did when I practiced standard dentistry. **Over time, they're needing me less, not more** - because this approach actually works.

I believe in my work so much that I put it in writing: every filling and crown is guaranteed for 5 years, and every implant for 10. Most dentists offer no written guarantee at all, or only cover their work for a year. I stand behind mine for the long haul.

If you feel like modern dentistry is failing you...
if you've ever wondered if there's a better way...
you found this guide for a reason.

Let me show you that better way.

Keep Smiling,
Dr. Pinto



Dr. Pinto with her husband Peter and five daughters

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Dr. Yenile Y. Pinto, DDS

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1.The Truth About Cavities & Gum Disease:

What Your Dentist Probably Never Told You

If You Think Brushing and Flossing Is Enough, Think Again...

You've been told your whole life that cavities and gum disease happen because you don't brush and floss enough.

That's only part of the story.

The real truth is that **people who brush twice a day, floss regularly, and visit the dentist still get cavities, gum disease, and eventually lose teeth.**

And if your dentist is still practicing old-school "drill-and-fill" dentistry, you're stuck in a cycle where your teeth are slowly being destroyed, one procedure at a time.

The good news?

There's a better way.

This guide will show you how to break free from the cycle of tooth decay, gum disease, and endless dental work - while protecting your entire body in the process.

No fluff, no medical jargon, no unrealistic advice or crazy routines. Just practical advice from a lifetime of experience helping people protect their smiles and their health distilled down to 40 pages of the essential things you need to know about your oral health, how it impacts your overall health and what you can do about it.

The Hidden Epidemic Destroying Your Health

Cavities and gum disease don't just affect your mouth - they affect your entire body.

And if you think they're just minor problems, consider this:

- **More than 42% of all adults older than 30 have some form of gum disease** - [\(NIH\)](#)
- **A third of adults 65 and older have lost at least six teeth.** - [\(AARP\)](#)
- **Untreated gum disease increases your risk of a first heart attack by up to 49%.** - [\(American Heart Association\)](#)
- **Tooth loss is linked to a 15% increased risk of dementia and a 20% increased risk of cognitive decline over time.** -

Your dentist may have never told you this, but:

☛ **Cavities and gum disease are NOT just about hygiene** - they're a sign of an underlying health imbalance.

☛ **Your oral health is a direct reflection of your full-body health.**

If you're getting cavities, receding gums, bad breath, or gum bleeding - it's a warning sign that something deeper is wrong.

And if you ignore these warning signs?

You could end up with root canals, missing teeth, chronic inflammation, and a higher risk of diseases like heart disease, diabetes, Alzheimer's and cancer.

Fact: A 2018 study concluded: ***"Cancer risk, especially for lung and colorectal cancer, is elevated in individuals with periodontitis"*** - [\(JNCI: Journal of the National Cancer Institute, Volume 110, Issue 8, August 2018\)](#).

How Oral Health Drives Disease Everywhere

PERIODONTAL DISEASE

Gum disease is linked to cancers of the mouth, gastrointestinal tract, lung, breast, prostate gland and uterus - Mayo Clinic.

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

A study of more than 30,000 Japanese adults found that periodontal treatment led to a significantly lower risk of **Alzheimer's disease**. - The Lancet

ATHEROSCLEROSIS

Carotid artery calcification risk was **102% higher** in people with gum disease. - NIH

HEART DISEASE

Among all 9760 subjects, those with periodontitis had a **25% increased risk of coronary heart disease**. - British Medical Journal

RESPIRATORY PROBLEMS

Gum disease bacteria can enter into the lungs and cause serious infections like pneumonia. - NIH

DIABETES

People with severe gum disease were **53% more likely to develop type 2 diabetes**; even mild disease raised the risk by 28%. - BMC

RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

The inflammation in your gums can contribute to both causing and worsening joint inflammation in arthritis - NIH

PREGNANCY COMPLICATIONS

Gum disease stretched the average wait to get pregnant by about **two extra months** - Human Reproduction

Serious gum disease made men **over three times** more likely to show **low sperm count** - Oral Diseases

The Problem: Traditional Dentistry Is Stuck in the Past

Most dentists are trained to **fix problems, not prevent them.**

Their business model is simple: **Wait until you have a problem, then drill, cut, and replace.**

Here's why that's a broken system:

❌ **Fillings & crowns weaken your teeth** – Every time a dentist drills into your tooth, it gets weaker and more likely to need more work in the future.

❌ **Gum disease treatments focus on symptoms** – Instead of fixing the root cause, most treatments just scrape away buildup, ignoring why the disease started in the first place.

❌ **Most dentists don't look at the whole picture** – They focus on fixing one tooth at a time instead of asking, "Why is this happening in the first place?"

That's why so many people **keep needing more and more dental work**, even if they do everything "right."

- **But what if you could stop this cycle before it starts?**
- **What if you could have a dentist who prevents problems instead of just fixing them?**

That's exactly what Functional & Biomimetic Dentistry is designed to do.

And that's exactly what this guide will teach you.

The Solution: A New Approach to Dental Health

This guide is not about:

- ❌ Telling you to brush and floss more (you already know that).
- ❌ Selling you on unnecessary procedures.
- ❌ Using outdated advice that hasn't changed in 50 years.

This guide is about:

- ✅ Understanding what actually causes cavities & gum disease (and how to stop it before it starts).
- ✅ Building a powerful, science-backed routine that protects your teeth and gums for life.
- ✅ Breaking free from the broken "drill-and-fill" system and finding a dentist who works with your body, not against it.

By the end of this guide, you'll know exactly how to:

- ✓ Prevent cavities & gum disease for life - even if you've struggled in the past.
- ✓ Choose the right oral care products & ditch the toxic ones ruining your teeth and health.
- ✓ Find a dentist who actually prioritizes your health, not their bottom line.

WARNING: Once you understand this information, you can never go back to looking at traditional dentistry the same way again.

Let's get started.

2. The Mouth–Body Connection:

The Diseases Linked to Oral Health

Your Oral Health Affects More Than Just Your Teeth

If you think cavities and gum disease are just a dental problem, think again.

What's happening in your mouth isn't staying in your mouth. It's impacting your heart, brain, immune system, and even your lifespan, but most people don't realize it until it's too late.

Imagine this for a moment:

You open your fridge and grab a box of strawberries. You lift the lid and notice a few of them are bruised, fuzzy, and growing white mold.



Are you going to eat those moldy strawberries?

Of course not. They're rotten, covered in bacteria, and you know they'll make you sick, because that kind of bacteria doesn't just stay in your mouth. It spreads through your whole system.

Now imagine this:

You have a cavity with active decay. That decay is filled with harmful bacteria.



Do you think that bacteria just politely stays put?

As you eat, drink, and swallow, some of that bacteria gets swallowed and absorbed, making its way into your bloodstream. Just like the moldy fruit, what's happening in your mouth can infect and damage other parts of your body.

Facts: According to the CDC, individuals with periodontal disease have about a **19% higher risk of developing coronary heart disease** and a **63% higher risk of ischemic or hemorrhagic stroke**. — ([CDC](#))

Your mouth is the gateway to your body, and if it's filled with infection and inflammation, that damage doesn't stay localized, it spreads. Bacteria from gum disease, untreated decay, and chronic inflammation can enter your bloodstream, triggering a cascade of damage throughout your body.

Gum Disease & Heart Disease: The Deadly Connection

If you have gum disease, you could be twice as likely to develop heart disease.

Why? Because the same bacteria that destroy your gums can travel through your bloodstream, triggering chronic inflammation and increasing plaque buildup in your arteries. This means:

- **Higher risk of heart attack & stroke**
- **Increased blood pressure & arterial plaque buildup**
- **Greater likelihood of cardiovascular disease**

Fact: “Compared with people who have healthy gums, people with periodontal disease are about twice as likely to have a heart attack.” - ([*Harvard Health*](#))

👉 If you care about your heart health, you should care about your gum health.

Gum Disease & Alzheimer's: The Silent Brain Killer

If you have gum disease, your risk of developing **Alzheimer's disease increases dramatically**.

Why? Because **P. gingivalis**, one of the most aggressive bacteria behind gum disease, has been **found in the brains of Alzheimer's patients**, suggesting that gum disease may be a major trigger for cognitive decline.

Fact: A study published in Alzheimer's Research & Therapy (2016) found that individuals with chronic gum disease lasting 10+ years were **70% more likely to develop Alzheimer's disease**. - ([*Periodontal Disease and Incident Dementia, Alzheimer's Research & Therapy, 2016*](#))

This means that skipping flossing today could contribute to memory loss, cognitive decline, and dementia years from now.

👉 Protecting your gums now may help protect your brain later.

Gum Disease & Diabetes: A Dangerous Two-Way Street

Diabetes and gum disease are closely linked - and the relationship goes *both* ways.

If you have diabetes, your risk of developing gum disease is much higher. But here's what many people don't realize: having gum disease can also make it harder to control blood sugar - even if you don't have diabetes yet.

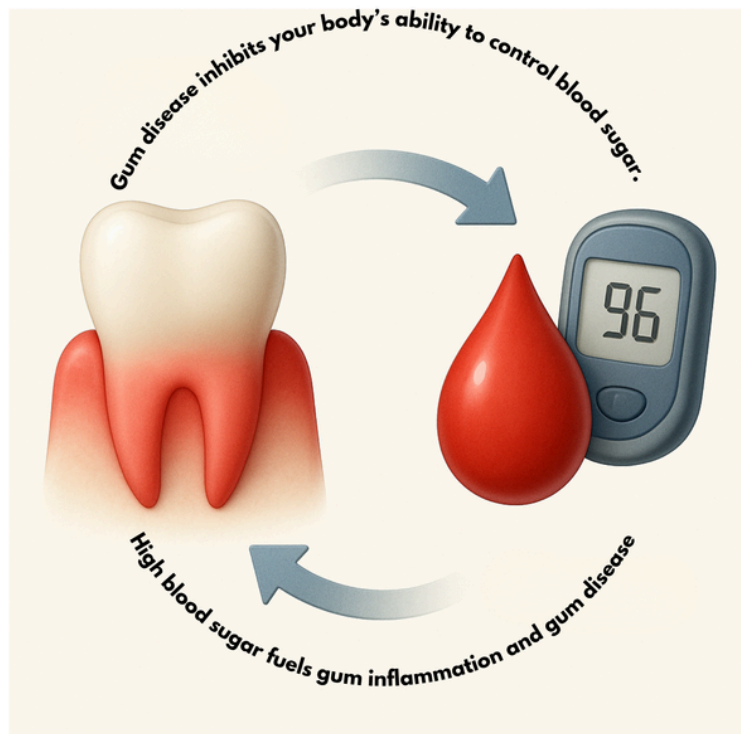
Fact: According to a 2021 meta-analysis of over 427,000 participants, "*individuals with gum disease have a 26% higher risk of developing Type 2 diabetes*" - underscoring how oral health can influence your metabolic health." - Scientific Reports

Here's how the cycle works:

- High blood sugar fuels gum inflammation
- Gum inflammation interferes with your body's ability to regulate blood sugar
- The more one worsens, the more it throws off the other - creating a vicious cycle

👉 The takeaway? Taking care of your gums may not just save your teeth - it could help you prevent or manage diabetes, too.

Gum Disease & Diabetes - A Vicious Cycle



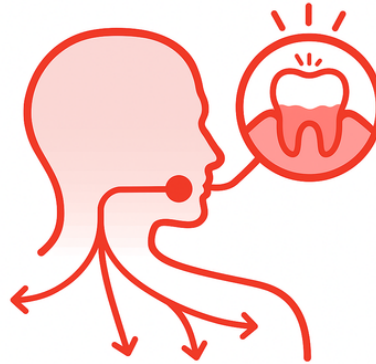
Gum disease and diabetes fuel each other, and having gum disease raises your risk of developing diabetes, according to the American Diabetes Association.

Chronic Inflammation: The Hidden Killer

Your oral health **directly affects** your body's **inflammatory response**.

When bacteria from cavities or gum disease enter your bloodstream, they trigger chronic inflammation, which is linked to:

- Heart disease
- Arthritis
- Cancer
- Autoimmune disorders
- Premature aging



Fact:

- *"Periodontal disease increases the body's burden of inflammation."* — [Harvard Health Publishing](#)
- *"Systemic chronic inflammation ... can, in turn, lead to several diseases that collectively represent the leading causes of disability and mortality worldwide."* — [Nature Medicine \(2019\)](#)

Translation? Even if you feel fine right now, if you have gum disease, you could be unknowingly putting yourself at risk for serious long-term health consequences.

👉 If you want to stay healthy as you age, your oral health must be a priority.

The Bottom Line: Your Mouth Is a Window to Your Overall Health

The way you care for your mouth - or don't - isn't just about your smile. It's a decision that affects your brain, your heart, and your long-term health.

Cavities and gum disease are NOT just oral problems. They are early warning signs of deeper health imbalances that, if ignored, can lead to:

- Heart disease
- Alzheimer's & cognitive decline
- Diabetes & blood sugar issues
- Chronic inflammation & systemic disease

The **functional dentistry approach** understands this connection and treats the **whole body, not just the teeth** - helping you prevent disease, not just react to it.

Coming up next: The Real Causes of Cavities & Gum Disease (And How to Stop Them)

3. Understanding How Cavities & Gum Disease Form

The Slow, Silent Destruction Happening Inside Your Mouth

Cavities and gum disease don't happen overnight. They are slow, progressive, and often completely painless - until it's too late.

If you've ever been surprised by a cavity at a dental check-up or noticed your gums bleeding while flossing, here's the hard truth:

👉 The damage started long before you noticed anything.

By the time you feel a cavity, it has already burrowed deep into your tooth.

By the time you see receding gums, the infection has already begun destroying bone.

But here's the good news:

The earlier you understand the process, the sooner you can stop it.

The Biofilm Battle – Good vs. Evil Inside Your Mouth

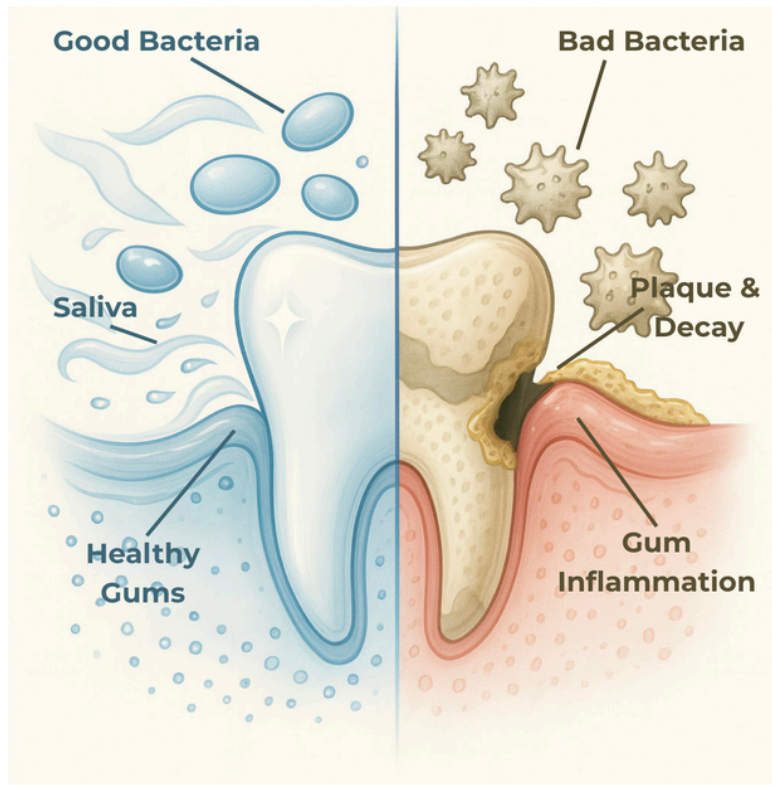
Your mouth is home to billions of bacteria - some are protecting you, while others are actively trying to destroy your teeth, gums and health.

The balance of power in this microscopic battlefield determines whether you stay cavity-free and healthy - or end up with decay, infection, and inflammation.

The Good Guys (Beneficial Bacteria & Saliva):

- **Saliva** - your built-in defense: it washes away food, neutralizes acids, and carries minerals that repair early damage.
- **Streptococcus sanguinis** – early enamel colonizer that outcompetes cavity-causing bacteria and helps keep acids in check.
- **Streptococcus gordonii** – uses arginine to make alkali, raising pH so your enamel can reharder instead of soften.
- **Neisseria mucosa** – a nitrate-reducing bacteria (fed by leafy greens) that supports a healthier, lower-inflammation mouth environment.

The Bacterial Battleground



The Bad Guys (Cavity & Gum Disease Bacteria):

Streptococcus mutans & P. gingivalis – These bacteria thrive on sugar and fermentable carbohydrates, producing acids that erode your enamel and attack your gums.

Tartar (Hardened Plaque) – When plaque isn't removed, it hardens into tartar, creating a perfect breeding ground for bacteria and inflammation.

What Happens If the Bad Guys Win?

- ✗ Your enamel weakens, and cavities start forming.
- ✗ Your gums become inflamed, starting the progression toward gum disease.

And once this process starts, it doesn't stop - unless you step in and fight back.

The Cavity Formation Process: How Decay Sneaks Up on You

Myth Busted: Sugar Doesn't Directly Cause Cavities

Most people think sugar itself causes cavities. It doesn't.

What actually happens is this:

Cavity-causing bacteria eat fermentable carbohydrates (sugars & starches) and produce acid as a waste product. That acid is what erodes your enamel and starts the decay process.

Fermentable Carbohydrates: The Real Culprit

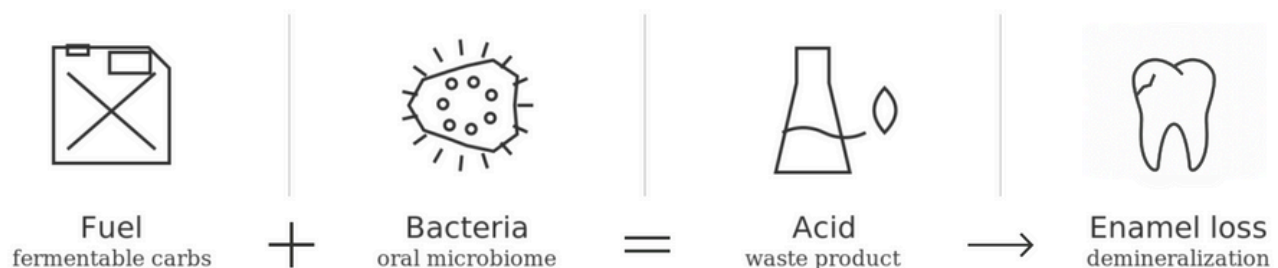
Not all carbs are bad for your teeth. The ones that feed harmful bacteria and trigger acid attacks are called fermentable carbohydrates - because they break down (ferment) in your mouth before digestion even begins.

What are fermentable carbs?

- Sugars (sucrose, glucose, fructose, maltose, lactose)
- Processed starches (white bread, crackers, chips, pasta, rice)
- Naturally occurring sugars in fruits (bananas, raisins, dried fruit)

Why are they so problematic?

- **Fermentable carbs** are literally the fuel for the bacteria that produce the acid that causes decay. More fuel, More fire, More damage.
- **Sticky foods = longer acid attacks.** Foods like crackers and dried fruit cling to teeth, creating longer exposure to harmful acids.
- **Frequent snacking = never-ending damage.** Each time you snack on fermentable carbs, you restart the acid attack, giving your teeth no time to recover.



The Stages of Decay – From Early Damage to Root Canals

Cavities don't happen in an instant. **They progress step by step - giving you multiple chances to stop them.**

Stage 1: Demineralization (The Invisible Warning Sign)

- Acid strips your enamel of minerals, softening and weakening it, making it more vulnerable.
- This stage is 100% reversible - but only if you take action now.

Stage 2: Enamel Breakdown (The Point of No Return... or Is It?)

- The outer enamel layer is breached, forming an early cavity.
- Many dentists will drill and fill at this stage - but thanks to advancements in biomimetic dentistry, there are new treatments that allow your tooth to heal itself without fillings, needles, or drills.

New Cavity Reversal Treatments:

- Resin Infiltration – A non-invasive treatment that stops decay and strengthens the tooth without drilling.
- Remineralization Therapies – Hydroxyapatite and fluoride treatments that rebuild weakened enamel naturally.

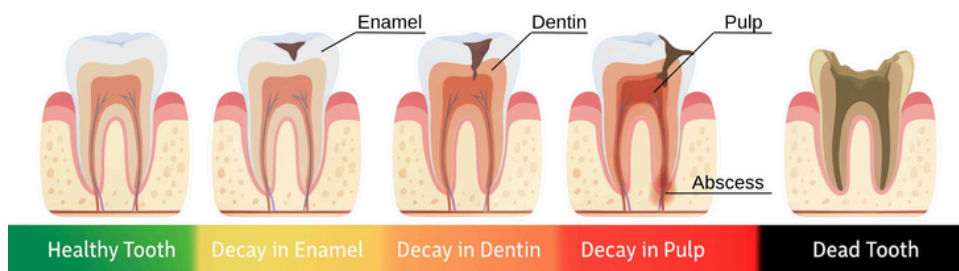
What this means for you? If caught early, you may never need a filling at all.

Stage 3: Dentin Decay (Deep Damage Begins)

- The cavity spreads into the softer dentin layer, irreversibly damaging the tooth.
- Most dentists will aggressively drill and fill at this point - but a biomimetic dentist takes a more conservative approach, preserving as much of your natural tooth as possible for a stronger, longer-lasting restoration

Stage 4: Pulp Infection (Pain, Abscess, and Root Canal Territory)

- The decay reaches the tooth's core, infecting nerves and blood vessels.
- This is when you start feeling pain, but by now, it's too late to reverse the damage.



The Progression of Gum Disease: The Silent Killer of Smiles

Gum disease doesn't cause pain until the damage is severe - which is why so many people ignore it.

Stage 1: Gingivitis (The Early Warning Sign)

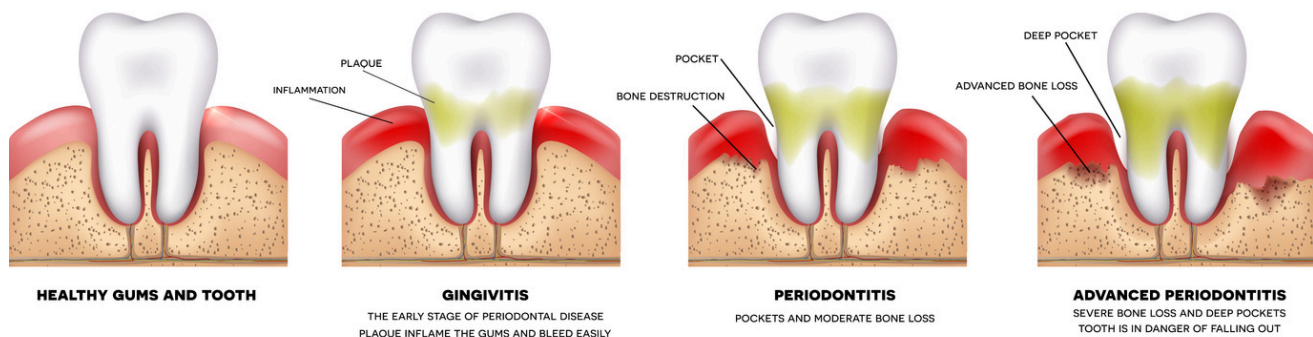
- Symptoms: Red, swollen gums that bleed when brushing or flossing.
- Reversible? Yes! With better hygiene, professional cleanings, and a focus on inflammation reduction, you can stop gingivitis in its tracks.

Stage 2: Early Periodontitis (The Damage Begins)

- Symptoms: Bleeding gums, gum recession, increased sensitivity, and deeper pockets forming around teeth.
- Reversible? Not completely - but it can be stopped and managed with proper treatment.

Stage 3: Advanced Periodontitis (Permanent Bone & Tooth Loss)

- Symptoms: Loose teeth, chronic bad breath, and significant bone loss.
- Reversible? No. Once bone is lost, it doesn't grow back naturally. If untreated, you may need extractions, gum surgery, or implants.



Fact: "The bacteria that infect the gums and cause gingivitis and periodontitis also travel to blood vessels elsewhere in the body where they cause blood vessel inflammation and damage; tiny blood clots, heart attack and stroke may follow. The body's immune response - Inflammation, sets off a cascade of vascular damage throughout the body, including the heart and brain." ([Harvard Health](#))

If you ignore your gums, you're not just risking your teeth - you're increasing your risk for serious diseases that impact your entire body.

The Turning Point: The Moment You Decide to Take Control

By now, you understand:

- ☞ Cavities and gum disease don't just happen - they're a process that you can interrupt at any time.
- ☞ The earlier you act, the more damage you can prevent.
- ☞ If you wait until it hurts, it's already too late.

So, what's next?

Now that you understand how cavities and gum disease take hold, it's time to look at what you can do about it. From ditching toxic products, to diet and lifestyle optimization, I'll cover all the bases and give you a winning game plan.

4. Your Daily Routine Might Be Destroying Your Teeth—Here's How to Fix It

You brush, you floss, and maybe you even use mouthwash - but if you're still getting cavities, gum irritation, or bad breath, something's missing.

The truth? **Most oral care routines are focusing on the wrong things.** Even worse, some of the most common products on the market are **actively damaging your teeth** - stripping away your body's natural defenses, drying out your mouth, and creating the perfect environment for cavities and gum disease to thrive.

What if everything you thought you knew about oral care was incomplete - or worse, wrong?

This section is going to break it all down - from the products you use to the way you eat, drink, sleep, and breathe. By the end, you'll know exactly how to **bulletproof your teeth and gums** - and help protect your whole body in the process.

Pillar 1: Ditch the Toxic Products & Upgrade Your Oral Care Routine

Toothpaste: Is Your Morning Routine Wrecking Your Enamel?

Most store-bought toothpastes foam up, taste minty, and promise cavity protection - but what they don't tell you is that they're packed with harsh detergents, artificial sweeteners, and chemicals that destroy your oral microbiome.

What to AVOID in Toothpaste:

- ✗ **Sodium Lauryl Sulfate (SLS)** – This foaming detergent strips your protective biofilm, causing gum irritation, ulcers, and increased bacterial overgrowth.
- ✗ **Artificial Sweeteners** (Aspartame, Saccharin, Sucralose) – Linked to gut microbiome disruption, which also affects your oral health.
- ✗ **Abrasive Whitening Agents** – Many whitening toothpastes erode enamel over time, making your teeth weaker.

What to Use Instead:

- ✓ **Hydroxyapatite Toothpaste** – Remineralizes enamel naturally and it's also what your teeth are naturally made of. (fluoride alternative).
- ✓ **Nano-Silver Toothpaste** – Kills harmful bacteria while preserving the good ones.
- ✓ **Xylitol-Based Toothpaste** – Starves cavity-causing bacteria and boosts saliva production.

A note on fluoride: I understand fluoride is a controversial topic. Personally, my family and I don't use it because, in our case, it's not needed. That said, fluoride isn't all good or all bad. I don't believe it belongs in our water, but if you're at high risk for cavities, it may be the most effective tool to stop tooth decay in its tracks. In severe cases, research shows it can reduce cavities by up to 5x, whether through toothpaste or a professional fluoride varnish. It's not for everyone, but in the right situation, when used correctly it can make all the difference.

Floss: Are You Putting “Forever Chemicals” in Your Mouth?

Many floss brands - especially “glide” flosses - are coated with **PFAS, the same toxic chemicals found in non-stick pans** and waterproof clothing. These forever chemicals never break down in your body and accumulate over time.

What to AVOID in Floss:

- ✗ **PFAS-Coated Floss** – Linked to hormone disruption, reproductive issues, and even cancer.
- ✗ **Nanoplastics** – Found in synthetic floss; accumulates in tissues and disrupts immune function.

What to Use Instead:

- ✓ **Natural Fiber Floss** – Removes plaque without toxins.
- ✓ **Water Flossers** – The power washer for your mouth. Perfect for tight contacts, braces, and gum issues.
- ✓ **Interdental Brushes** – Far more effective than floss for larger gaps.

Fact: Flossing at least once a week was linked to a 22% lower risk of ischemic stroke, a 44% lower risk of cardioembolic stroke, and a 12% lower risk of atrial fibrillation. Plus, more frequent flossing was associated with even greater risk reductions. - ([American Heart Association](#).)

Mouthwash: Why Most Brands Are Making Your Breath Worse

If your mouthwash burns like alcohol, it's doing more harm than good.

Most commercial mouthwashes **kill all bacteria - including the good ones**. The result? Bad breath comes back worse than before, and your oral microbiome gets thrown out of balance.

What to AVOID in Mouthwash:

- ✗ **Alcohol-Based Mouthwash** – Dries out your mouth, reducing saliva flow.
- ✗ **Artificial Dyes & Colors** – Completely unnecessary, linked to inflammatory issues.
- ✗ **Acidic Mouthwash** – Studies show many commercial rinses have a pH below 5, which can demineralize enamel over time. Choose a mouthwash with a neutral or alkaline pH (7 or higher) to support long-term tooth strength.

What to Use Instead:

- ✓ **pH-Balanced Mouthwash** – Neutralizes acid and supports healthy saliva.
- ✓ **Xylitol or Nano-Silver Rinses** – Targets bad bacteria while protecting the good.
- ✓ **Aloe Vera-Based Mouthwash** – Soothes gums and reduces inflammation.

Toothbrush: Why You Need an Electric Toothbrush

An electric toothbrush isn't just an upgrade, it's a complete game-changer. In theory a manual toothbrush can be just as effective if you're using perfect technique, but the reality is almost no one does. An electric removes all the guess work and does a superior job with less effort. If you're using a manual brush, I highly recommend switching to an electric.

Why You Should Switch to an Electric Toothbrush:

- **Removes More Plaque & Bacteria** – Far more effective at cleaning than a manual toothbrush.
- **Cleans Below the Gumline** – Essential for preventing gum disease and recession.
- **Built-in Timer** – Helps ensure you brush for the full two minutes (most people don't).
- **Prevents Over-Brushing** – This is huge. Brushing too hard is like using a Brillo pad on a nonstick pan, it scrubs away protective enamel and damages your gums. A good electric toothbrush with a pressure sensor stops you from making this mistake.

True Story: Brushing harder is not better. Years ago I noticed that my husband Peter's gums were starting to recede on the left side, (He's left handed). I asked him to brush for me and noticed he was applying way too much pressure. After upgrading to an electric toothbrush with a built-in pressure sensor, the recession stopped and his gums are looking better than ever.

Pillar 2: Feed Your Teeth & Gums the Right Way

Your oral health isn't just about brushing and flossing, it's about what you eat, drink, and how often you snack.

The Best Foods for Healthy Teeth & Gums:

- ✓ **Calcium-Rich Foods** – Strengthens enamel & neutralizes acidity.
 - Cheese, plain yogurt, leafy greens, almonds, sardines.
- ✓ **Phosphorus-Packed Foods** – Works with calcium to rebuild enamel.
 - Meat, eggs, nuts, seeds, fish.
- ✓ **Vitamin D Sources** – Essential for calcium absorption.
 - Salmon, egg yolks, cod liver oil, fortified dairy.
- ✓ **Magnesium Superfoods** – Key for strong enamel & mineral absorption.
 - Dark chocolate, pumpkin seeds, spinach, avocados.
- ✓ **Crunchy, Fibrous Vegetables** – Naturally clean teeth and stimulate saliva.
 - Carrots, celery, apples, cucumbers.
- ✓ **Xylitol** – A natural sugar substitute that fights harmful bacteria, promotes remineralization and saliva production.
 - Xylitol gum, mints, toothpaste.
- ✓ **Mineral Water Non-acidic** – Helps balance Ph and provides trace minerals needed for enamel repair.
 - A few brands that have a Ph above 7 include Poland Springs, Fiji, Evian, Essentia, Deer Park & SmartWater.

The Worst Foods & Drinks for Your Teeth:

- ❌ **Sugary & Sticky Foods** – Feed harmful bacteria and cause acid attacks.
 - Candy, soda, dried fruit, honey, syrups, juice.
- ❌ **Refined Carbohydrates** – Break down into sugars in your mouth.
 - White bread, chips, crackers, pasta, baked goods.
- ❌ **Acidic Drinks** – Soften enamel and make teeth more vulnerable.
 - Wine, coffee, energy drinks, soda, juice.
- ❌ **Artificial Sweeteners** – May disrupt gut & oral microbiome balance.

I know what you're thinking, "There is no way I'm giving up coffee, wine and sweets". Guess what, neither am I. A glass of wine with a friend, your morning cup of coffee or sharing a chocolate chip cookie with your child are things that we all enjoy and that enrich our lives. That being said, how you consume them makes all the difference.

Here are four simple tips for enjoying your favorite treats while protecting your oral health.

If you eat something acidic or sugary:

1. Pair it with fat or protein to buffer acid damage.
2. Eat it **WITH** a meal instead of snacking all day. (Constant snacking = never-ending acid attack)
3. Rinse with water afterward (but don't brush immediately - wait 30 min).
4. Chew a piece of xylitol gum to promote saliva production and balance pH

Pillar 3: Fix How You Sleep & Breathe

The Way You Breathe at Night Could Be Destroying Your Teeth, Ruining Your Sleep, and Shortening Your Life

You brush, floss, and eat right - but if your breathing is off, everything else is fighting an uphill battle.

Most people never think about how they breathe, but if you're breathing through your mouth instead of your nose, you're setting yourself up for tooth decay, gum disease, bad breath, and even more serious health issues such as high blood pressure, chronic inflammation, and sleep apnea.

Mouth breathing at night is especially destructive because saliva production drops while you sleep and mouth breathing further dries out your mouth. Without saliva's natural protective effects, harmful bacteria thrive - leading to more cavities, gum recession, and bad breath by morning.

And that's not all...

A compromised airway can cause:

- ✗ **Fatigue & Brain Fog** – Poor oxygenation leads to grogginess, stress, and mental dullness.
- ✗ **Increased Stress & Systemic Inflammation** – Chronic mouth breathing puts the body in a low-level fight-or-flight state.
- ✗ **Grinding & TMJ Issues** – Your body instinctively clenches and grinds to try and open a restricted airway.
- ✗ **Sleep Apnea & Heart Disease** – Interrupted breathing at night leads to oxygen deprivation, high blood pressure, and cardiovascular stress.

Think of it this way: Your teeth and gums don't exist in isolation. They're a reflection of how well your body is functioning overall - and breathing the wrong way can sabotage your oral and systemic health in ways most dentists never tell you about.

Bonus: Take my free [Sleep & Airway Quiz](https://SleepQuiz.Deering-Dental.com) to find out your risk level and what to do next.
SleepQuiz.Deering-Dental.com

In the South Florida area and want help figuring out your sleep or airway issues? I'd love to help. Just reach out to schedule a consultation, we'll get to the root of the problem, together.

Fact: “Obstructive sleep apnea increases the risk of heart failure by 140%, the risk of stroke by 60%, and the risk of coronary heart disease by 30%.” - [European Society of Cardiology](#).

Patient Story: Sharon’s Struggle with Exhaustion & Mouth Breathing

When Sharon walked into my office, she looked exhausted - dark circles under her eyes, slumped posture, barely functioning on caffeine. But when I looked at her teeth, I saw something even more concerning: heavy wear from grinding and a narrow palate restricting her airway.

I asked, “When was the last time you woke up feeling fully rested?”

Her answer? “Oh gosh, too long ago to remember. My doctor gave me a CPAP, but can anyone honestly sleep with a snorkel strapped to their face?”

We discussed how her grinding, narrow palate, and restricted airway were working against her, keeping her in a cycle of poor sleep, fatigue, and stress. Instead of just slapping a nightguard on the problem, we took a comprehensive approach - collaborating with an ENT to improve her airway, addressing her bite, and retraining her breathing patterns.

The result? **Within a few months, Sharon had more energy than she’d had in years.** She was sleeping better, grinding less, and waking up without feeling like a zombie.

If you’ve been struggling with fatigue, poor sleep, or constant cavities despite doing everything right, your airway might be the missing piece.

Key Points: How Sleep & Breathing Impact Oral Health

- Mouth Breathing → Dry Mouth → Higher Risk of Cavities & Gum Disease
(Less saliva = more bacteria, more acid, more damage.)
- Poor Sleep → Higher Inflammation → Slower Healing & Weaker Defenses
(Your immune system can’t keep up—and your gums and body take the hit.)
- Snoring, Sleep Apnea & Grinding → Tooth Wear, Gum Recession & Fatigue
(Your body fights for oxygen at night—and your teeth and health pay the price.)

Solutions Based on Your Situation

This isn't just about comfort - it's about protecting your teeth, fixing your sleep, and extending your lifespan.

If You Wake Up with Dry Mouth or Bad Breath → You're probably mouth breathing.

Do this TONIGHT:

- Use nasal strips to open your airways.
- Try a humidifier (if your air is dry).
- Suck on xylitol lozenges before bed to stimulate saliva.
- Use mouth tape to train yourself to nasal breathe (only if your airway is clear).
 - *To test if mouth taping is for you, Time yourself and breathe through your nose for three minutes while walking around. If you feel completely fine and don't feel as if you have to open your mouth to get a good breath in, then mouth taping should be fine. If this test makes you feel anxious or as if you're not getting enough air, reach out to an ENT or airway focused dentist to address any issues before attempting to mouth tape.*

If You Have a Deviated Septum or Constant Congestion → Mouth tape may not be an option —you need a specialist.

Do this:

- See an ENT to assess your nasal airway. You may need treatment to breathe properly.
- Consider myofunctional therapy to retrain your tongue and jaw posture.

If You Snore or Grind Your Teeth → You likely have a bite misalignment or airway issue.

Take action now:

- A functional dentist can correct your bite with orthodontic treatment or fit you with an oral appliance that helps keep your airway open.
- Work with an ENT, Allergist, or Myofunctional Therapist to address the root cause.
- Avoid alcohol & heavy meals before bed, which can worsen airway collapse.

If You Feel Tired No Matter How Much You Sleep → Sleep apnea or an imbalanced bite could be stealing your energy.

What to do:

- Get an airway evaluation with a functional dentist or airway-focused orthodontist.
- Consider a sleep study to rule out sleep apnea (you may not even know you have it).
- If CPAP isn't working for you, ask about orthodontic or appliance-based airway correction.

There's No Silver Bullet, But There Is a Smarter Way

Sleep and airway issues aren't fixed with a quick appliance or a magic device. They're usually the result of many small imbalances, like nasal congestion, poor tongue posture, a narrow palate, or a misaligned bite. That's why truly fixing the problem requires a multi-pronged approach: working with an ENT, improving your breathing habits, correcting your bite, and building a better sleep routine.

That's exactly what Sharon did. She didn't just get an appliance or rely on a CPAP. She committed to the full process. Using Invisalign to open her bite and create more room for her tongue, working with an ENT to clear her nasal passages, and retraining her breathing. A few months later, she wasn't just grinding less, she had more energy, clearer focus, and finally felt rested again.

If you're dealing with fatigue, clenching, or constant cavities despite doing everything "right," your airway might be the missing piece. But like Sharon, real results come when you address the whole problem, not just the symptoms.

☞ **The goal isn't just better sleep, it's about waking up with energy, breathing with ease, and feeling like yourself again.** Not for the sake of perfect teeth, but so you can fully enjoy what's most important in life.



(Dr. Pinto with her five daughters)

"When you feel your best, you can show up for the moments that matter most."

Final Thoughts: Work With Your Body, Not Against It

Eat better. Sleep better. Hydrate more. Are you noticing a trend?

The same habits that keep your body strong and thriving are the ones that protect your teeth. **There's no such thing as "oral health" in isolation, it's just your health.** Your mouth is the gateway to the rest of your body, and when it's out of balance, everything else suffers. Chronic inflammation, gut issues, heart disease, and even cognitive decline have all been linked to poor oral health.

But here's the exciting part: when you take care of your teeth the right way, you're not just avoiding cavities, you're setting yourself up for better energy, better digestion, and better overall wellness.

Now that you know the truth, are you ready to break free from the endless cycle of cavities, gum disease, and unnecessary dental work?

Start by finding out where you stand. Take the free [Sleep & Airway Quiz](#) to assess your risk and uncover your next steps at SleepQuiz.deering-dental.com

Live in South Florida? I'd love to help you personally. You can schedule a one-on-one consultation to get a full airway and bite evaluation and start building a plan that works for your body, not just your teeth.

Up Next: Your step-by-step daily routine to protect your mouth and your whole body—starting today.

5. The Ultimate Oral Health Routine: Protect Your Teeth & Gums for Life



Now that you know what actually works, it's time to put it all together.

This **step-by-step routine** isn't about adding more to your plate, it's about working smarter, not harder.

Follow this plan, and you'll **stop cavities, prevent gum disease, and protect your teeth for life.**

Bonus Gift for Readers: Want the exact routine I give my own family - plus every product I personally use and trust?

Visit www.deering-dental.com/the-oral-health-blueprint/ to download The Oral Health Cheat Sheet + My list of clean dental products — a simplified step-by-step daily plan anyone can follow, plus a tested-and-approved product list to help you protect your teeth (and your health) for life.



Morning Routine: Start Your Day Right

- ✓ Scrape Your Tongue (Before Drinking Water or Brushing)
 - Removes odor-causing bacteria that lead to bad breath and gum disease.
 - Use a stainless steel tongue scraper (not a toothbrush).
- ✓ Hydrate First (Before Eating or Drinking Anything Else)
 - Your saliva is your first line of defense against cavities.
 - Start the day with a glass of mineral water to flush out overnight bacteria and rehydrate your mouth.
- ✓ Brush with Hydroxyapatite or Nano-Silver Toothpaste (No SLS)
 - 2 minutes with an electric toothbrush.
 - Focus on gentle, circular motions, not aggressive scrubbing.
 - Spit, don't rinse, leave the minerals on your teeth to strengthen enamel.
- ✓ Floss (or Use Interdental Brushes)
 - Removes plaque and food debris from between your teeth.
 - Water flossers are a great alternative for tight contacts or gum sensitivity.
- ✓ Rinse with a pH-Balanced Mouthwash (Xylitol or Nano-Silver Based)
 - DO NOT use alcohol-based mouthwash (it dries out your mouth and kills good bacteria).
 - Look for xylitol-based, nano-silver, or aloe vera formulas to protect your oral microbiome.
- ✓ Nasal Breathing Check

Don't let your mouth sabotage your sleep. Good sleep is critical for you to function at your best.

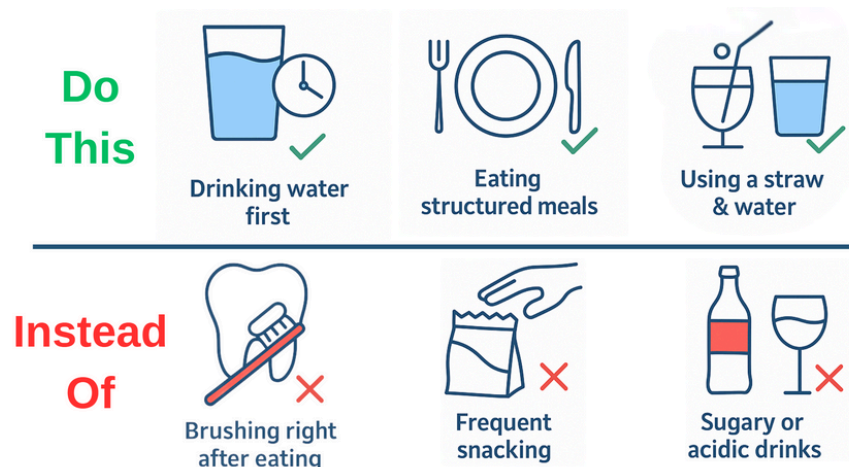
 - If you wake up with a dry mouth, you're breathing through your mouth at night, which increases cavity risk.
 - Try mouth taping, nasal strips, or seeing an airway-focused dentist if this is an ongoing issue.



Midday Routine: Protect Your Teeth Throughout the Day

- ✓ **Drink Water After Eating (Instead of Brushing Right Away)**
 - Wait at least 30 minutes before brushing if you eat acidic foods.
 - Swish water around your mouth to restore a neutral pH and wash away food particles.
- ✓ **Use Xylitol Gum or Mints After Meals**
 - Xylitol starves cavity-causing bacteria and stimulates saliva flow and balances pH.
 - Great for when you can't brush after a meal.
- ✓ **Limit Snacking & Stick to Structured Meals**
 - Constant grazing = constant acid attacks.
 - Eat your sweets and carbs with a meal, not alone.
 - If you must snack, choose cheese, nuts, or fibrous veggies to help protect your teeth.
- ✓ **Avoid Sugary & Acidic Drinks Between Meals**
 - Sipping soda, juice, or coffee all day is a disaster for your enamel.
 - Use a straw for acidic drinks to minimize direct contact with teeth.
 - Try to consume acidic drinks such as sodas and energy drinks in 30 minutes or less to reduce contact time. Don't casually sip them over an hour two.
 - Pair alcohol, coffee, or wine with water to reduce damage.

Reality Check: *Let's be honest, no one's giving up coffee, wine, or the occasional treat completely (myself included). But here's the good news: you don't have to. By being smart about how and when you enjoy these things, pairing them with tooth-friendly foods, rinsing with water, and chewing xylitol gum, you can protect your teeth and still enjoy life.*





Nighttime Routine: Protect & Heal While You Sleep

- ✓ Floss First, Then Brush with a Remineralizing Toothpaste
 - Flossing first lets your toothpaste reach deeper between your teeth. Use a hydroxyapatite-based toothpaste to rebuild enamel overnight.
- ✓ Use a Water Flosser or Interdental Brushes (Optional Add-Ons)
 - If you have gum disease, tight spaces, or dental work, these tools offer deeper cleaning—especially in areas floss can't reach.
- ✓ Rinse with a pH-Balanced, Alcohol-Free Mouthwash
 - Choose formulas with xylitol or nano-silver to reduce inflammation and protect your oral microbiome.
- ✓ Take a Dental Probiotic
 - Look for *Streptococcus salivarius* K12 or M18 to repopulate good bacteria and support overnight healing.
- ✓ Use Mouth Tape (If You're a Nighttime Mouth Breather)
 - Mouth breathing dries out your mouth and increases cavity risk. If tolerated, mouth tape trains nasal breathing.
 - Struggling to breathe through your nose? See an ENT or airway-focused dentist.
- ✓ Optimize Your Sleep Environment
 - A cool, dark room improves sleep quality, lowers inflammation, and helps your immune system fight oral bacteria.

Final Thoughts: The Secret to a Lifetime of Healthy Teeth

It's not about brushing harder. It's about brushing smarter.

By using the right products, optimizing your diet, and improving your breathing and sleep, you'll stop playing defense and start truly protecting your teeth and gums.

Follow this routine, and your future self will thank you.

👉 No more cavities. No more gum disease. No more unnecessary dental work. Just strong, healthy teeth for life.

6. Fixing Specific Issues: Add-On Protocols for Targeted Protection

Not everyone has the same oral health needs. Some people struggle with cavities no matter how much they brush, while others deal with gum disease, bad breath, or sensitive teeth. **This section gives you science-backed, highly effective protocols to address specific issues, so you can stop problems before they start.**

High Cavity Risk? Double Down on Protection

Even with great brushing habits, some people still get cavities. If that's you, it's time to strengthen your enamel, rebalance your oral microbiome, and improve saliva flow to stop decay in its tracks.

✅ Upgrade Your Remineralization Game:

- Use a toothpaste that has hydroxyapatite + Fluoride twice a day to repair enamel and make teeth more cavity-resistant. (Dr. Jen's & CariFree contain both)
- Rub a bit of toothpaste on your floss to get that enamel saving hydroxyapatite in those hard to reach places.
- Add MI Paste or fluoride varnish (if recommended by your dentist) for extra protection.
- Drink mineral-rich water or add Trace Mineral Drops (avoid distilled or filtered-only water without remineralization).

✅ Boost Saliva Production:

- Chew xylitol gum or mints after meals to neutralize acids and slow cavity-causing bacteria.
- Stay hydrated and avoid alcohol-based mouthwash, which dries out your mouth.
- Use a humidifier at night if you suffer from dry mouth.
- Talk to your doctor about any medications you're taking that could be causing your dry mouth.

✓ **Balance Your Oral Microbiome with Dental Probiotics:**

- Take a high-quality oral probiotic to restore good bacteria.
- Swish and hold the probiotic in your mouth for 30-60 seconds before swallowing to let it colonize.
- Ask your dentist to test your microbiome with a saliva test.

Pro Tip: If you're getting cavities despite doing everything "right," your dentist should check for hidden risk factors like acid reflux, diet issues, bite misalignment or airway problems.

Sensitive Teeth? Stop the Pain & Protect Your Enamel

Tooth sensitivity is often a warning sign of weakened enamel, gum recession, or excessive acid exposure. Here's how to fix it:

✓ **Strengthen Your Enamel:**

- Switch to a nano-hydroxyapatite toothpaste. It rebuilds and seals enamel naturally.
- Limit acidic foods and drinks (coffee, citrus, alcohol, soda, pickles) and rinse with water after consuming them.
- Avoid brushing right after acidic foods—wait 30 minutes to prevent enamel wear.

✓ **Soothe Exposed Dentin & Nerve Sensitivity:**

- Apply MI Paste (if recommended by your dentist) to remineralize sensitive areas.
- Use a soft-bristled toothbrush and apply gentle pressure—over-brushing worsens sensitivity.



Pro Tip: Sensitivity in one specific tooth could mean a cracked tooth or hidden cavity. See a dentist if pain persists.

Gum Disease? Reverse It Before It's Too Late

If your gums bleed when you brush or floss, that's a red flag. Early gum disease (gingivitis) is reversible, but if left untreated, it turns into periodontitis, which destroys the bone supporting your teeth.

✅ Attack Gum Disease at the Source:

- Brush with hydroxyapatite or antibacterial nano-silver toothpaste to reduce inflammation.
- Floss daily—if your gums bleed, it's a sign you need to floss more, not less.
- Use a nano-silver or xylitol rinse to control bacteria without drying out your mouth.
- Upgrade to a water flosser if you have deep pockets or struggle with traditional floss.
- Use interproximal brushes to get in-between any gaps.

✅ Supercharge Your Healing:

- Increase omega-3 intake (fish oil or flaxseed) to reduce inflammation.
- Eat Vitamin C-rich foods (bell peppers, citrus, strawberries) to strengthen gum tissue.
- Take an oral probiotic to help repopulate good bacteria.
- Scrape your tongue twice daily to reduce bacterial load and prevent bad breath associated with gum disease.

Gum disease doesn't go away, but you can keep it check once treated by your dentist with a solid hygiene routine and regular dental visits every 6, 4, or 3 months depending on the severity of your disease.

Pro Tip: Chronic gum disease is linked to heart disease, diabetes, Alzheimer's and more, don't ignore it.

Bad Breath? Stop It at the Source

Bad breath isn't just embarrassing, it's a sign that bad bacteria are taking over. Fixing it means going beyond just masking the smell.

✅ Eliminate the Root Cause:

- Brush & scrape your tongue twice a day, your tongue harbors 80% of bad breath bacteria.



- Switch to a pH-balancing or xylitol mouthwash, avoid alcohol-based rinses.
- Use a water flosser, food stuck between teeth is a breeding ground for odor-causing bacteria.
- Avoid bad breath causing foods such as garlic, onions, cheese, tuna and spicy foods.
- Practice breathing through your nose, mouth breathing = dry mouth = bad breath.
- Stay hydrated, aim for at least 2 liters per day to keep your mouth moist and flush away odor-causing bacteria.

✅ Repopulate Your Mouth with Good Bacteria:

- Take an oral probiotic daily - this outcompetes odor-causing bacteria.
- Chew xylitol gum after meals - it reduces sulfur compounds that cause bad breath.

Pro Tip: If bad breath persists, get checked for acid reflux, post-nasal drip, or underlying gum disease.

Grinding, Snoring, or Mouth Breathing? Fix It to Protect Your Teeth

If you wake up with jaw pain, headaches, or a dry mouth, you could be grinding your teeth or breathing through your mouth at night. Both can cause serious damage over time.

✅ For Nighttime Grinding (Bruxism):

- Get a custom night guard from a dentist (store-bought ones don't protect or fit as well).
- Check for airway issues - grinding is often a sign of sleep-disordered breathing.



✅ For Snoring & Mouth Breathing:

- Try nasal strips or a mouth tape (if you can breathe through your nose comfortably).
- Get screened for sleep apnea - it's a major cause of grinding and chronic fatigue.
- Sleep with a humidifier to reduce dry mouth and congestion.
- Consider an airway-focused dentist if your bite is restricting breathing.

✓ For Daytime Clenching:

- Try the 'Tongue-to-Roof' Trick – Rest your tongue on the roof of your mouth, just behind your front teeth. This naturally relaxes your jaw.
- Remember 'Lips Together, Teeth Apart' – When your mouth is closed, your lips should touch, but your teeth shouldn't.
- Addressing your stress triggers - clenching during the day is often stress-related. Whether it's yoga, breathing exercises, prayer, or quiet time with a cup of tea, the key is finding a healthy way to manage your stress.

If you're suffering from grinding, snoring or mouth breathing, you're not just harming your mouth. These can all be signs of airway issues that cause chronic fatigue, stress, inflammation and even shorten your lifespan. Interested to assess your sleep and risk level?

Visit: www.something.com to take a sleep and airway assessment, **discover your sleep apnea risk level and what you can do about it.**

Pro Tip: Grinding and mouth breathing are often symptoms of a deeper airway or bite issue. Don't just treat the symptoms, find the root cause and you'll find the energy you've been missing.

Final Thoughts: Take Control of Your Oral Health

If you've struggled with cavities, gum disease, bad breath, or grinding, these add-on strategies will give you the extra edge you need to fix them for good.

- ◆ Start with the Ultimate Prevention Routine (Section 5).
- ◆ If you have specific issues, layer on the solutions from this section to target your biggest problem areas.
- ◆ Work with a dentist who understands functional & biomimetic dentistry, they'll focus on fixing the root cause instead of just treating symptoms.

When you fix the source of the problem, your teeth will be healthier, stronger, and cavity-free for life!

Next Step: Choosing the Right Provider

Even the best at-home routine can only take you so far **if your dentist is stuck in the old "drill and fill" mindset. You need someone who sees the bigger picture**, someone who understands how oral health fits into whole-body health and uses cutting-edge, minimally invasive techniques to preserve your natural teeth for life.

So, how do you find the right provider? Let's talk about functional and biomimetic dentistry - the future of truly healthy, long-lasting smiles.

7. The Future of Dentistry: Functional & Biomimetic Care That Works With Your Body

Most people assume all dentists practice the same way. Drill, fill, bill, repeat. But as you've seen throughout this guide, there's a massive difference in how dentistry is approached. The right philosophy doesn't just protect your teeth, it protects your whole-body health.

So, how do you find a dentist who aligns with your values? Let's break it down.

What Kind of Dentist Do You Need?

There are a lot of different dental philosophies out there, and it's important to find a provider whose approach aligns with your values.

If you've read this far, then I think it's safe to say you're not looking for a traditional, insurance-driven dentist who only treats what's covered instead of what's best for you. You're serious about your health. You want a dentist who looks at the whole picture and provides the best possible care, not just whatever is convenient for an insurance company.

So what does that leave? Let's talk about two popular alternatives - **holistic dentistry vs. functional and biomimetic dentistry** - and why I don't practice holistic dentistry.

Holistic Dentistry: What It Is (and Where It Falls Short)

If you're looking for an ultra-natural approach, a holistic dentist may better align with your philosophy. They focus on:

- ✓ Avoiding chemicals in dental treatments
- ✓ Using alternative materials
- ✓ Rejecting fluoride, root canals, and some mainstream procedures

This approach has some merit - being mindful of materials and reducing toxicity is important. However, **many holistic dentists take it too far**, rejecting science-backed advancements that could actually help patients.

For example:

- Avoiding fluoride completely - when targeted, safe use can help high-risk patients.
- Refusing root canals entirely - even when a well-performed root canal can save a tooth.
- Prioritizing “natural” treatments at the expense of effectiveness.

While holistic dentistry focuses on avoiding harm, it often misses the science-backed treatments that can strengthen, rebuild, and protect teeth for life. That's where functional and biomimetic dentistry come in.

Functional & Biomimetic Dentistry: Science + Nature Working Together

If you want a balanced approach that works with your body while utilizing the best of modern science, **functional and biomimetic dentistry is the answer.**

- ✓ Works with nature, not against it - using materials that mimic your tooth's natural structure while strengthening it for long-term health.
- ✓ Identifies the root cause of dental issues rather than just treating symptoms.
- ✓ Uses science-backed advancements to prevent unnecessary dental work.
- ✓ Prioritizes airway health, sleep quality, and total-body wellness.

This approach preserves your teeth, prevents unnecessary procedures, and enhances your overall health, without rejecting modern advancements that actually work.

The Future of Dentistry: Why Functional & Biomimetic Care Matters

Functional Dentistry: Looking Beyond Just Your Teeth

Traditional dentistry only treats the symptoms, fixing cavities, cleaning teeth, and moving on. **Functional dentistry looks deeper**, connecting oral health to overall health to prevent problems before they start.

- ✓ **Chronic Inflammation & Systemic Health** – Gum disease isn't just about your gums. It's linked to heart disease, diabetes, and even Alzheimer's. If your dentist isn't talking about this, they're missing a crucial part of your health.

- ✓ **Mouth Breathing & Airway Health** – If you breathe through your mouth, you're drying out your oral microbiome, making cavities and gum disease more likely. Worse yet? It's often tied to sleep apnea, which puts you at risk for heart disease, high blood pressure, and fatigue.
- ✓ **Nutrient Deficiencies & Tooth Decay** – A functional dentist won't just tell you to floss more. They'll talk to you about minerals, hydration, and the foods that actually strengthen your teeth.
- ✓ **Gut Health & Oral Bacteria** – Your mouth is the first part of your digestive system. If your oral microbiome is out of balance, it affects your entire body, including your immune system and inflammation levels.

👉 **Real Patient Story:** One of my patients came in for routine care, but when I examined his bite and jaw alignment, I could see something bigger was at play. Based on his airway restriction, I asked if he had sleep apnea. He was shocked, "How did you know?" Turns out, his misaligned bite was restricting his airway while he slept, contributing to his breathing problems. No other dentist had ever connected these dots for him. Now, he's undergoing treatment to align his bite and improve his breathing; something that could change the trajectory of his overall health.

Biomimetic Dentistry: How It Saves More Teeth & Prevents Unnecessary Treatment

Traditional dentistry is reactive. It waits for problems to happen, then drills, fills, and eventually replaces teeth over time.

Biomimetic dentistry is different. It mimics the natural properties of teeth, allowing us to save more of your healthy structure, prevent unnecessary crowns and root canals, and create restorations that last far longer than traditional dental work.

- ✓ **Minimally Invasive** – A biomimetic dentist removes only what's necessary, keeping your natural tooth as intact as possible.
- ✓ **Stronger Restorations** – Instead of bulky, outdated fillings and crowns, biomimetic restorations flex and bond like natural teeth, keeping them 90% as strong as their original structure, instead of just 50% with traditional fillings.
- ✓ **Longer-Lasting Work** – By mimicking nature, these restorations last years longer than traditional fillings and crowns, drastically reducing the need for root canals and extractions down the road.

👉 **Real Patient Story:** Recently, a woman came to me after her dentist told her she needed three root canals and four crowns. She wasn't in pain, but was told the damage was too advanced to fix any other way. Instead of just drilling and billing, we evaluated her bite, teeth, gums, and lifestyle to see what was really going on. The result? **She avoided all three root canals** and needed only one biomimetic crown instead of four traditional crowns.

This isn't luck, this is the power of biomimetic dentistry.

Want proof? - *Visit Deering-Dental.com to see how root canals and crowns at my practice dropped by 86.5% and 90% after switching to functional, biomimetic care.*

Leading a Revolution in Dentistry

So, you're convinced that this paradigm shift in dentistry is for you, but you're nowhere near my practice in Miami, FL?

Don't worry, I still want to help you because I'm not in this for me. I'm in it for you and for everyone who's been stuck in an outdated, insurance-driven system that hasn't seen real innovation since white composite fillings were introduced over 60 years ago.

My goal is to lead a revolution in dentistry, one that puts prevention, long-term health, and minimally invasive treatments at the forefront. That starts by getting the word out and helping you find a provider who doesn't just drill and fill, but actually protects your teeth and overall well-being.

Here's how to find a dentist who will treat the cause, not just the symptoms.

How to Find a Functional & Biomimetic Dentist

Now that you know what to look for, here are some useful resources to help you find a dentist who aligns with this philosophy:

Academy of Biomimetic Dentistry – Tooth-conserving dentistry rooted in science and nature.

Kois Center – Dentists trained in evidence-based, functional, whole-body dentistry.

American Academy of Physiological Medicine & Dentistry – Focused on airway, breathing, and sleep-related health.

Spear Education – Dentists focused on long-lasting results and whole-patient health.

Search online - Type “Biomimetic Dentist Near Me” or “Functional Dentist Near Me” into Google, you might discover the perfect dentist is closer than you think. You can also try “Biological Dentist” or “Adhesive Dentist.” They may not deliver every benefit of true biomimetic and functional care, but they’re still miles ahead of standard drill-and-fill dentistry.

Your Health. Your Smile. Your Move.

You’ve made it this far because you know there’s a better way, one that protects your teeth, your health, and your future. Now, it’s time to take action.

Most people wait until they have a problem before they act. But you? **You’re ahead of the curve.** You understand that real prevention starts before there’s pain, before there’s damage and before it’s too late.

Here’s the truth: Every day, your oral health is moving in one direction or the other. The steps you take now will determine whether your teeth stay strong for life, or whether you end up stuck in the endless cycle of drilling, filling, and fixing.

The best part? **You don’t have to figure it out alone.**

At Deering Dental, we do things differently. No insurance-driven decisions, no unnecessary treatments, just world-class, science-backed care designed to keep your smile healthy and beautiful for life.

Appointments are limited. We intentionally keep our guest list small to provide the highest level of care and service. If you're ready to experience dentistry the way it should be, call now before our next availability is gone.

This is your moment. Your health, your smile, your future, let’s protect it together.

Not in Miami? No excuses. The right dentist is out there and ready to help, use this guide, Visit <https://deering-dental.com/the-oral-health-blueprint-2/> to download The Oral Health Cheat Sheet + My Ultimate Shopping Guide, and give your teeth the care they deserve.