

Checklist for Assessing Oral Health

There is no delineated oral health section on most Review of Systems templates or Physical Exam guidelines. Because oral health contributes significantly to whole-body health, it's important to include an oral health interview and physical assessment in the patient intake process. This document can be printed for use or copied into an existing template.

Review of Systems (Subjective)

- What is your oral care routine?
- Have you had a central cleaning/exam in the past 6 months? 12 months?
- Halitosis
- Coated tongue
- Sore tongue
- Visible changes in your mouth/teeth
- Bleeding when brushing and/or flossing
- Tooth sensitivity to hot, cold, or sweet stimuli
- History of fillings
- History of root canals or crowns
- History of teeth grinding,
- Periodontal issues
- Changes in medications (some cause dry mouth)
- Have you been to the doctor, urgent care, or the emergency room since our last visit?
- Have you taken antibiotics?
- Do you smoke or use tobacco products?

Oral Health Exam:

- Red, puffy, bleeding gums
- Gum recession
- Visible plaque and/or calculus
- Loss of teeth
- Mouth breathing and/or lip-apart rest oral posture
- Coated tongue
- Dry mouth