Alzheimer's and the Dental Link.

By: Kenneth Canzonerí DDS.

Dear Dr KC: I recently thought I heard something about a link between gum disease and Alzheimer's. I have always had bleeding gums and I have a family history of Alzheimer's in my

family. Should I be worried?

Signed: Worried

Dear Worried: New research evidence has found that a bacteria that is largely responsible for gum disease also contributes to the development of Alzheimer's disease. How this works is that a bacteria found in gum disease migrate from the mouth to the brain and release a toxic protein that destroys brain neurons.

We live in such a different world now! Dentists once simply drilled and filled teeth with cavities and cleaned teeth once or twice a year. Now dentists must realize that we are at the forefront of preventing disease of the human body. The Surgeon General reports that at least 80% of American adults have gum disease and we know that the bacteria in your mouth travel to other parts of your body in your bloodstream.

Researchers have found links between inflammation in your mouth and diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis, heart disease, strokes, pancreatic and kidney cancer, increased risk of premature death, high blood pressure and other links are being studied as I write this article.

In dentistry inflammation in the gums can be called gingivitis, periodontal disease, pyorrhea, bleeding during brushing and other descriptive words but my main point is that bleeding gums cannot be tolerated and must be eliminated.

In my office Dental Lasers are used to assist in treating gum disease along with other options we have at our disposal in a modern dental office. The mentality of "my gums have always bleed" or "my gums are always red" can not be tolerated.

We only have one life! Let's live it as long and healthy as we can!

Signed: Dr KC

The facts are...

Your mouth "talks" to your body...

...and your body "talks" to your mouth!

Gum disease increases the risk of head & neck cancer.

-AAOSH

Cavities are caused by a germ that spreads while kissing & sharing food.

--American Academy for Oral Systemic Health

Bacteria in your mouth travel to other parts of your body in your bloodstream.

> --American Academy for Oral Systemic Health

Diabetes & bleeding gums increases your risk of **premature death** by 400 – 700 percent.

--American Academy for Oral Systemic Health

Pregnant women with gum disease have only a 1 in 7 chance of giving birth to a healthy child of normal size.

--AAOSH

People with gum disease are twice as likely to die from **heart disease** & three times as likely to die from **stroke**..

Tooth loss & gum disease increase the risk of **Alzheimer's** disease.

--Mayo Clinic

Gum disease increases pancreatic & kidney cancer risk by 62%.

-- Harvard

93% of people with gum disease are at risk for **diabetes**.

--AAOSH

Research has found an association between gum disease and rheumatoid arthritis.

-American Academy of Family Physicians

-AAOSH

The Surgeon General reports that at least 80% of American adults have gum disease.

Bacteria that live in your mouth can cause

heart disease, high blood pressure &

stroke.

--Mayo Clinic

Text