There is a strong correlation between oral health and overall health.

Did you know that there are 50 times more bacteria microorganisms living in our bodies than the total amount of cells in our bodies? While most bacteria play an essential role within the natural ecosystem of the body, some bacteria can hurt the body. Inside our mouth, good bacteria help to break down the food and drink particles we consume. Some harmful bacteria in the mouth feed off of simple carbohydrates (sugars, starches), and if left unchecked, multiply and can lead to tooth decay, gum disease and other health problems.

The following ailments are linked to poor oral health:

- **Heart Disease**: Those with gum disease are two-times more likely to have or develop heart disease
- **Strokes & Clots**: Those with gum disease are more susceptibility of having a stroke and, or, developing blood clots
- **Respiratory Disease**: Harmful bacteria from the mouth can be an agent for pneumonia and bronchitis
- **Diabetes**: Gum disease disrupts the control of blood sugar
- **Kidney Disease**: Harmful bacteria from poor oral hygiene can weaken kidneys

Taking care of your mouth is one of the best ways to prevent a wide range of health problems.

Maintaining a clean and healthy mouth is critical to whole body health, especially for children. Regular visits to your dentist not only keep your mouth healthy but can also provide key diagnostics - identifying diabetes and other chronic diseases.