



Periodontitis

More commonly known as gum disease, it is an inflammatory disease and can cause serious dental problems if not treated effectively.

Causes

Periodontitis is caused by a build up of plaque and tartar at the base of the teeth. The resulting inflammation can cause a gap to form between the gums and the teeth, trapping the plaque and tartar.

Some people are more susceptible to periodontitis because of their genetic makeup. Smoking significantly increases your chances as well as having disease such as rheumatoid arthritis, diabetes and HIV.

Symptoms

The signs and symptoms include; Bleeding Gums, Swollen Gums, Sensitivity, Pain, Receding Gums, Bad Breath, Build up of Tartar and Changes in your Bite.

Treatment

Mild periodontitis is treated by cleaning your teeth, also known as scaling. Scaling removes all the plaque and tartar from your teeth above and below the gum line.

More serious periodontitis may require surgery to reshape your gums to better fit your teeth or regrow bone that was destroyed. You also need a course of antibiotics to clear up any infections.