

# Let's Talk About Teeth

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## THE GUM DISEASE-DIABETES LINK

For people with Type II Diabetes, several recent studies suggest that by taking better care of their teeth and gums can help them exert better control over the disease. According to the studies, Type II diabetics who have gum disease are more likely to develop worsened glycemic control as well as have a higher risk of developing end-stage kidney disease. Numerous studies point to the fact that good glycemic control lessens the development and progression of diabetes' complications. With this in mind, when glycemia is difficult for a diabetic to control, they might want to consider scheduling a visit with the dentist - who can check for signs of gum disease. Glycemia refers to the concentration of sugar (glucose) in the bloodstream. Moreover, the diagnosis and treatment of gum disease may help keep glucose levels under control.

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