

Gum Treatment Categories

Category 1 – Standard Health Maintenance Cleaning Treatment

-This treatment maintains gum health, prevents gum disease and treats mild bleeding gums and inflammation (gingivitis) by:

- Basic gum disease screening measurements to ensure that more severe disease is not present
- Basic oral hygiene instruction
- Removal of bacterial plaque, stain and mild calculus (hard tartar) build up
- Preventative fluoride treatment
- Repeat treatments every 6 months to maintain gums in a healthy condition
- 3-4 month repeat treatments for patients with a higher susceptibility to gum disease

Category 2 – Mild to Moderate Gum Disease Treatment

-This category is identified following your screening examination with the dentist or more thorough screening examination by your hygienist during your standard cleaning treatment. Additional fees will apply for this category of treatment. This treatment does everything in category 1, plus:

- Detailed charting of gum scores (6 measurements per tooth) in affected areas
- Specific oral hygiene instruction
- Treatment of severe bleeding gums and inflammation (gingivitis)
- Removal of significant calculus build up above the gum
- Removal of bacterial plaque and calculus build up deeper under the gum, in limited areas of the mouth
- Treatment may be performed with use of local anaesthetic in limited areas for patient comfort
- Treatment may often require longer than standard visits and/or multiple visits due to the additional time required for the treatment to be completed thoroughly – additional fees will be charged accordingly
- Review of diseased areas within 3-6 months and follow up treatment to ensure gums can return to a healthy state and revert back to category 1 treatment in future

Category 3 – Moderate to Severe Gum Disease Treatment

-This category is identified following your screening examination with the dentist or more thorough screening examination with your hygienist during your standard cleaning treatment. Additional fees will apply for this category of treatment. This treatment does everything in categories 1 and 2, plus:

- Detailed charting of gum scores (6 measurements per tooth) throughout the entire mouth
- Removal of bacterial plaque and calculus build up deeper under the gum in more -widespread areas of the mouth
- Treatment will often be performed with use of local anaesthetic for patient comfort
- Treatment will always require longer than standard visits and/or multiple visits due to the additional time required for the treatment to be completed thoroughly and comfortably – additional fees be charged accordingly
- Review of diseased areas within 3 months and detailed gum health score to assess response of disease to the treatment and home cleaning regime
- Follow up treatment as indicated, usually in category 2 or 3
- It may take a few courses of treatment to achieve gum health which will be maintained and reviewed with category 1 treatment
- Patients who have had more severe gum disease will usually be susceptible to the disease returning for the rest of their life, so in most cases category 1 treatments will usually be required every 3-4 months to maintain gum health long term
- Referral to a periodontal specialist if response to treatment is poor