

Additional Information for Dental Hygiene

Dental Hygiene:

She presents with a full upper denture and tooth pain. In addition she has foul odor that she states her children have complained about. You notice the odor as periodontal concerns. You also notice an acetone odor from her mouth as well. She states that her lower arch aches as a generalized rule and the upper denture does not stay in. She has extreme difficulty eating with the denture and her diet is mostly soft foods. You also note her ability to move her left side of her tongue is impaired and note food impaction on this side.

Discussion Questions:

1. What are the concerns you have with her oral health? How would you address the oral pain on her mandibular arch if you are asked to screen her mouth?
2. What might the acetone odor indicate? What lab values would indicate that this is becoming a medical emergency? Who would you notify about this problem?
3. What type of education would help her with the periodontal odor? What recommendations could you give her in the acute care setting? What recommendations would you give for her at discharge?
4. What would be your recommendation for the left side of her mouth with chewing?