

- **Periodontal disease affects 34% of the US adult population according to the CDC**
- **Periodontal disease has been linked to diabetes and heart disease. See [Mouth and Body Connection](#)**
- **If left untreated, periodontal disease can lead to tooth loss**



The scary thing is. . . you can't see it and it doesn't hurt!

Periodontal (gum) diseases, including gingivitis and periodontitis, are serious infections that, left untreated, can lead to tooth loss. The word periodontal literally means "around the tooth". Periodontal disease is a chronic bacterial infection that affects the gums and bone supporting the teeth. Periodontal disease can affect one tooth or many teeth. It begins when the bacteria in plaque (the sticky, colourless film that constantly forms on your teeth) cause the gums to become inflamed.

