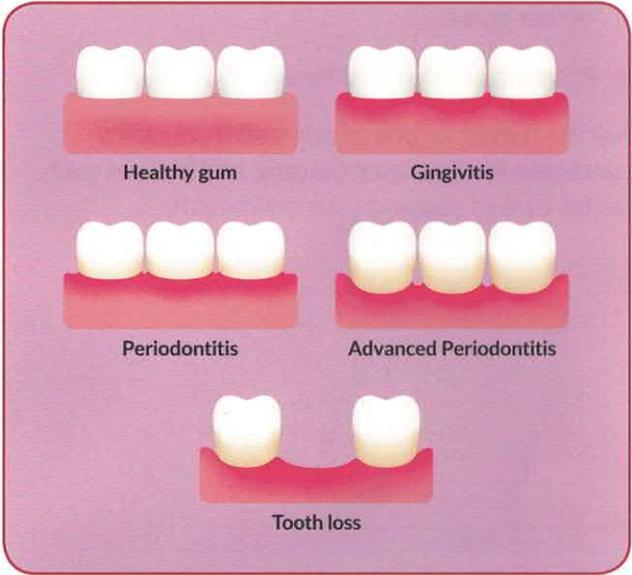


# What is Gum Disease?

Inflamed, bleeding gums, bad breath, and gum recession are common signs of gingivitis and gum disease. Gum disease is caused by bacteria in periodontal pockets, deep in the gum tissue down to the tooth roots. Routine hygiene, such as brushing and flossing, helps to get rid of plaque, but if the plaque solidifies and forms tartar, brushing and flossing will not remove it. The professional skills of dentists or dental hygienists are required to regularly perform cleaning treatments to remove this tartar.

# The Stages of Gum Disease



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*"I barely felt anything."*

Caroline, California  
*Epic Patient*

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GUM  
DISEASE



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## What You Need to Know About Gum Disease?

### HERE ARE SOME WARNING SIGNS:

- ✦ Gums that bleed easily
- ✦ Red, swollen, tender gums
- ✦ Gums that have pulled away from the teeth
- ✦ Persistent bad breath or bad taste
- ✦ Permanent teeth that are loose or separating
- ✦ Any change in the way your teeth fit together when you bite
- ✦ Any change in the fit of partial dentures

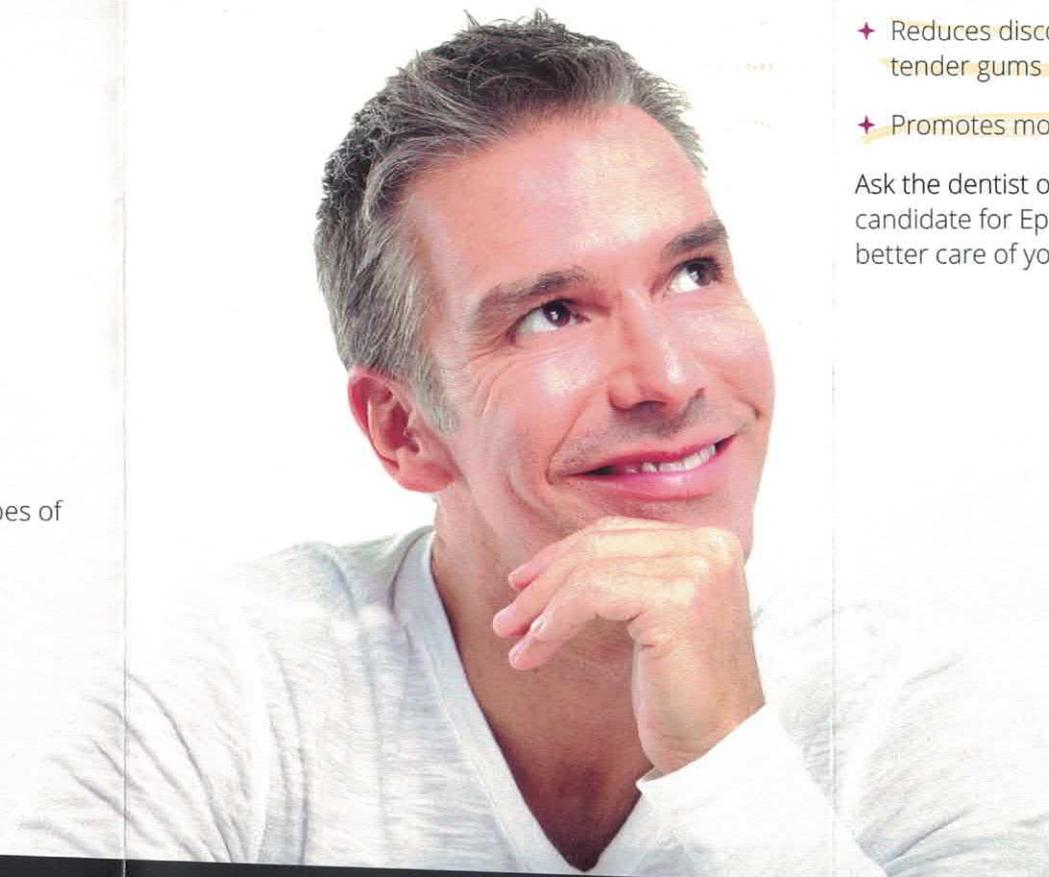
### GUM DISEASE RISK FACTORS:

- ✦ Poor oral hygiene
- ✦ Smoking or chewing tobacco
- ✦ Genetics
- ✦ Crooked teeth that are hard to keep clean
- ✦ Pregnancy/hormonal changes
- ✦ Diabetes
- ✦ Medications, including steroids, certain types of anti-epilepsy drugs, cancer therapy drugs, some calcium channel blockers and oral contraceptives

### IT'S NOT JUST GUM DISEASE. IT'S YOUR HEALTH.

If you have been told that you have gum disease, you are not alone. Nearly 70% of adults have some form of gum disease.<sup>1</sup> The most important thing to know about gum disease is that you shouldn't ignore it.

Left untreated, gum disease will result in receding gums, bone loss, and ultimately may cost you your teeth. Additionally, studies show that periodontal disease is associated with heart disease, diabetes and cancer. So, if you have gum disease, it's very important for your overall health that you get treatment.



## Finally, a New Way to Manage Gum Disease

Now, with Epic Laser Dentistry™, we can control the bacteria in your mouth to prevent the progression of gum disease and bring your gums back to health. Epic Laser Dentistry may be recommended as part of your treatment plan during the early stages of gum disease to prevent the progression of this disease.

Epic Laser Dentistry offers significant advantages including:

- ✦ Eliminates bleeding gums
- ✦ Reduces discomfort associated with red, swollen, tender gums
- ✦ Promotes more rapid healing

Ask the dentist or one of our staff if you are a candidate for Epic laser therapy, and help us take better care of you and your oral health.

<sup>1</sup>CDC.gov