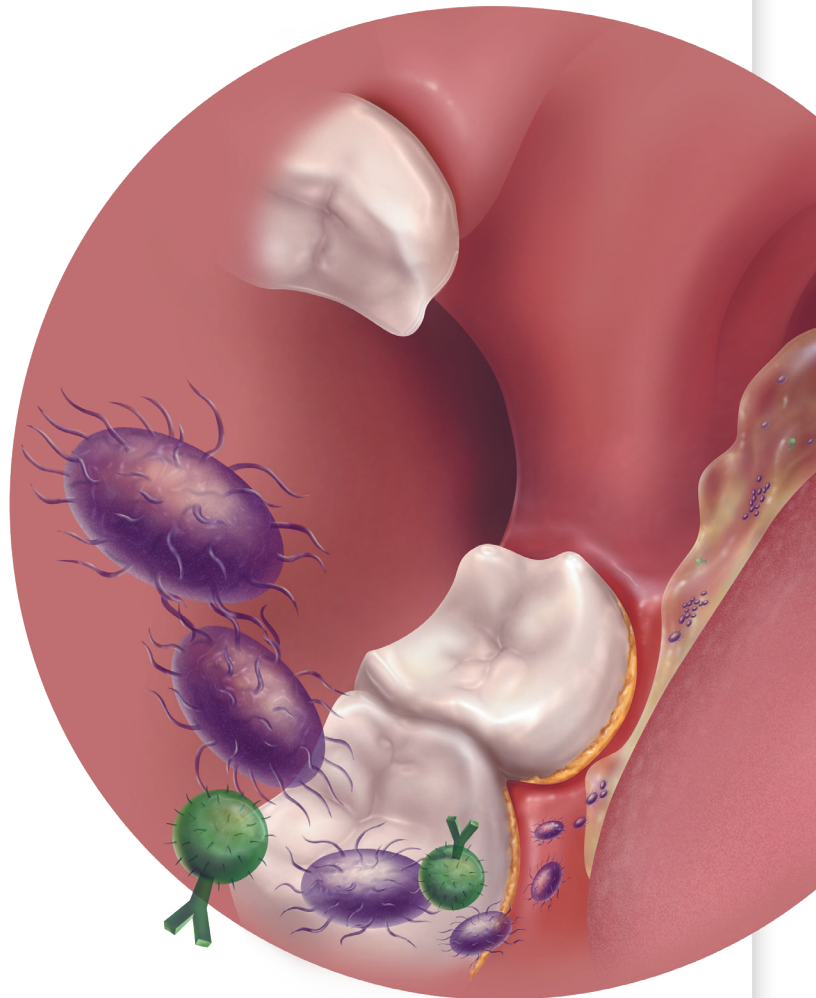


Frequent oral care

is important for all patients

The oral cavity is a proven source of hospital-acquired pneumonias (HAPs):^{1,2}

- Bacteria that cause nosocomial respiratory diseases colonize the oropharyngeal area, including dental plaque.^{3,4}
- These pathogens can be aspirated into the lungs and cause infection.⁴



References: 1. B Schleder, et al., "The Effect of a Comprehensive Oral Care Protocol on Patients at Risk for Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia," *Journal of Advocate Health Care*. 4(1):27-30, Spring/Summer 2002. 2. Tablan OC, et al., Guidelines for preventing health-care-associated pneumonia, 2003, Recommendations of CDC and Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC), 2003. 3. Scannapieco FA *J Periodontology*. 1999 Jul; 70(7):793-802. 4. Fourrier F, et al., *Crit Care Med*. 1998;26:301-8.