

DRY MOUTH

Xerostomia

The hidden cause
of gum disease

What you need to know

What is XEROSTOMIA?

Xerostomia, commonly referred to as **Dry Mouth**, is a decreased secretion or altered composition of saliva. **Dry Mouth** is often misdiagnosed and often left untreated. If unmanaged, **Dry Mouth** can lead to a decline in oral health, gum disease and an environment ripe for bacterial and fungal overgrowth. Cases can range from mild to extreme with a majority of patients only exhibiting a few of the signs.

Functions of Saliva:

Saliva possesses many important functions including antimicrobial activity, mechanical cleansing action, control of pH, removal of food debris from the oral cavity, maintaining moisture integrity of the mucosa, digestion, remineralization of the teeth with high calcium and phosphate concentrations.

Signs to Watch:

- Dense, thick dental plaque
- Tooth decay
- Sores or cracks in mouth
- Ulcers of mouth, tongue or gums
- Food aversions due to discomfort from chewing or swallowing
- Bleeding gums
- Foamy or thick, string-like saliva
- Gum disease
- Halitosis
- Excessive thirst
- Red patches on mucosa
- Inflammation

What causes Dry Mouth?

- Inadequate water intake
- Systemic diseases
- Dehydration
- Diarrhea
- Diabetes
- Renal failure
- Strokes
- Hypertension
- Chronic liver disease
- Aging
- Anxiety
- Medications
- Chemotherapy
- FIV
- Endocrine Disorders
- Keratoconjunctivitis sicca
- Pancreatitis
- Thyroid dysfunction
- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Immune-mediated diseases
- Nutritional deficiencies
- Radiation to head and/or neck
- Trauma to head or neck causing nerve damage

Managing Dry Mouth:

Increased water intake in small quantities throughout the day is recommended and administration of oral balancing products such as Oratene Veterinarian Brushless Oral Care. Oratene Veterinarian products contain the patented **LP3 Enzyme System** which has been proven to restore oral balance, improve hydration of the mucosa, sustain beneficial bacteria while greatly reducing harmful bacteria and fungi.

How Bio-Active Enzymes Benefit Oral Health:

The patented **LP3 Enzyme System** contains the bio-active enzymes lactoperoxidase, lactoferrin and lysozyme which work synergistically to naturally regenerate the mouth's defenses and achieve oral balance by inhibiting harmful bacteria while not disrupting the beneficial bacteria. Oratene Veterinarian Brushless Oral Care products also contain the patented mutanase and dextranase enzyme system to render plaque biofilm water soluble and inhibit it from binding to the tooth surface. Combined, all of these powerful bio-active enzymes work to improve saliva quality, inhibit and remove plaque biofilm while also inhibiting harmful bacteria, fungus (such as yeast) and some viruses.



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