NMHealth Adult Smiles

Toothbrush & Toothpaste

- · Brush twice daily
- For a minimum of 2 minutes
- · Using a pea-sized amount of toothpaste
- Use a soft manual toothbrush or an electric toothbrush
- · Angle the bristles toward the gumline
- Replace your manual toothbrush or electric toothbrush head 3-4 times per year

Floss

- · Floss once daily
- · Preferably before bedtime
- Wrap the floss around each tooth in a C-shape and gently hug each tooth to remove plaque and debris
- Repeat for all teeth
- · Including behind the last molars

Hydrate & Diet

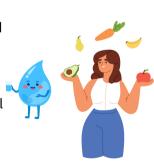
- Drink plenty of water to help wash away food and decrease dry mouth
- Eat a well-balanced diet that keeps sugary foods and drinks to a minimum
- Avoid heavy use of alcohol and tobacco in all forms, including smokeless vaping products

Dental Home

- · Visit your dental office at least 2 times per year
- Part of a routine dental visit is an oral cancer screening
- · Regular visits promote good oral health
- Dental check-ups can ensure early detection of cavities and gum disease









DENTAL FAST FACTS

- The second most common disease among adults is cavities-which are preventable
- Flossing 1 time per day can increase your life expectancy by 6 years
- Brushing alone <u>only</u> removes between 28-53% of plaque and food
- It takes 30 minutes after drinking soda for the acid in it to start breaking down enamel
- 164 million hours of work lost each year by adults to dental emergencies
- Enamel is the hardest part of the entire body
- 47% of adults aged 30 years and older have some form of gum disease
- Mouths produce enough salvia in a lifetime to fill 2 swimming pools
- Takes 43 muscles to frown and 17 muscles to smile
- Early detection of oral cancer significantly impacts treatment outcomes and survival rates



Office of Oral Health

