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## Oral Health and Life threatening Diseases See Your Registered Dental Hygienist for Life-Saving Advice

- Recognizing disease early is the key to saving lives. An RDH (registered dental hygienist) is licensed and educated to help recognize signs of oral cancer, diabetes, eating disorders and HIV.
- Approximately 75% of Americans have some form of gum disease (periodontal disease) which has now been identified as a potential risk factor for heart disease, respiratory ailments and the delivery of preterm low birth-weight babies. RDH's are properly licensed and educated to help keep gum disease under control.
- Preventable oral diseases still affect a majority of Americans. Dental caries (tooth decay) is the single most common childhood disease and is 5 times more common than asthma. RDH's are licensed to educate the consumer and prevent oral diseases.
- RDH's are preventive healthcare providers specializing in oral health, with thousands of hours of classroom and clinical instruction including biochemistry, pharmacology and oral pathology. They are licensed in dental hygiene to provide educational, clinical and therapeutic services that support total health through the promotion of optimal oral health.

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