Diabetes increases the risk of gum disease

People with diabetes have a greater risk of developing gum disease (gingivitis and periodontitis).

Gum disease can negatively affect diabetes control.

Successful gum treatment may improve control of diabetes.

Inform people with diabetes of the increased risk of gum disease and advise them to see their dental professional for regular check-ups, treatment and regular maintenance.

Patients recently diagnosed with diabetes should share this information with their dentist and hygienist and request more careful annual monitoring of their gums.

Information on improving gum health should be part of overall diabetes management.

Symptoms
Be aware of signs/symptoms of gum disease such as gums bleeding while brushing or eating, loose teeth, receding/shrinking gums and halitosis (bad breath).