

1. Which of the following can be related to poor mouth care?

A) Strokes

Yes. There is growing evidence that cardiovascular diseases affecting the blood vessels can impact all organs in the body, leading to strokes, heart problems, and dementias.

B) Weight gain

No. People with dental pain or poor functional dentition tend to lose weight rather than gain it.

C) Reluctance to drink

Yes. Poor mouth care can lead to increased tooth sensitivity, which may result in a reluctance to drink.

2. Why do you approach

At eye level

From the dominant side

Talking to them

How should I approach someone with dementia?

Approach them at eye level and from their dominant side to make the interaction less intimidating.

Why might a tall adult feel intimidating?

A tall adult approaching someone can be more intimidating than a small child due to an evolutionary fight-or-flight response.

How does dementia affect vision?

Vision can be impaired by the disease. Additionally, we have an automatic reaction to new stimuli in our peripheral vision, often causing us to instinctively move out of the way, much like dodging a pigeon flying toward us.

How should I communicate with someone with dementia?

Talk in a relaxed, soothing manner. Explain what you are doing and refer back to familiar topics to distract and engage them, which is often more effective than silence.

3 Regarding the dentures

A) Who should remove them

B) When should they be removed

C) Where should they be kept at night

A) Who should remove dentures?

Dentures should ideally be removed by the resident as long as possible. However, if they are unable to do so, caregivers can assist. Good-fitting partial dentures may be difficult to remove, as there is often only one pathway for their removal. Assisting the resident with your hand can help you learn how to remove the dentures when they can no longer do so themselves. This hand-to-hand contact is reassuring for the resident.

B) When should dentures be removed?*

Dentures should be removed before cleaning the natural teeth to ensure proper oral hygiene. Additionally, they should not be worn overnight, as removing them helps maintain healthy gums and reduces the risk of tooth decay.

C) Where should dentures be kept at night?*

Dentures should be stored in a dry container with the resident's name clearly labeled on it. Ideally, the dentures themselves should also have the resident's name. It can be helpful to have the dentures scanned in case they are lost or broken. It is also important to note that it is highly unlikely for a resident with dementia to wear new dentures due to the time and cost involved.