

Sample 1: Oral Health Assessment Tool (OHAT) also know as the Modified Brief Oral Health Status Examination

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Oral Health Assessment Tool for Dental Screening (modified from Kayser-Jones et al (1995) by Chalmers (2004))				
Client: _____		Completed by: _____		Date: ___/___/___
Scores – You can circle individual words as well as giving a score in each category and can write notes in the category scores column also				
Category	0 = healthy	1 = changes *	2 = unhealthy *	Category scores
Lips	smooth, pink, moist	dry, chapped, or red at corners	swelling or lump, white/red/ulcerated patch; bleeding/ulcerated at corners	
Tongue	normal, moist roughness, pink,	patchy, fissured, red, coated	patch that is red &/or white, ulcerated, swollen	
Gums and tissues	pink, moist, smooth, no bleeding	dry, shiny, rough, red, swollen, one ulcer/sore spot under dentures	swollen, bleeding, ulcers, white/red patches, generalized redness under dentures	
Saliva	moist tissues, watery and free flowing saliva	dry, sticky tissues, little saliva present, resident thinks they have a dry mouth	tissues parched and red, very little/no saliva present, saliva is thick, resident thinks they have a dry mouth	
Natural teeth Yes/No	no decayed or broken teeth/roots	1-3 decayed or broken teeth/ roots or very worn down teeth	4 + decayed or broken teeth/roots, or very worn down teeth, or less than 4 teeth	
Dentures Yes/No	no broken areas or teeth, dentures regularly worn, and named	1 broken area/ tooth or dentures only worn for 1-2 hrs daily, or dentures not named, or loose	more than 1 broken area/tooth, denture missing or not worn, loose and needs denture adhesive, or not named	
Oral cleanliness	clean and no food particles or tartar in mouth or dentures	food particles/ tartar/ plaque in 1-2 areas of the mouth or on small area of dentures or halitosis (bad breath)	food particles/tartar/plaque in most areas of the mouth or on most of dentures or severe halitosis (bad breath)	
Dental pain	no behavioral, verbal, or physical signs of dental pain	are verbal &/or behavioral signs of pain such as pulling at face, chewing lips, not eating, aggression	are physical pain signs (swelling of cheek or gum, broken teeth, ulcers), as well as verbal &/or behavioral signs (pulling at face, not eating, aggression)	
<input type="checkbox"/> * Refer person to have a dental examination by a dentist <input type="checkbox"/> Person and/or family/guardian refuses dental treatment <input type="checkbox"/> Complete Oral Hygiene Care Plan and start oral hygiene care interventions for person <input type="checkbox"/> Review this person's oral health again on Date: ___/___/___				TOTAL SCORE: 16

Resources are available to support the use of this tool by nurses and other care providers. An online module on the Oral Health Assessment Tool (OHAT) contains interactive practice exercises.

The University of Iowa/Geriatric Education

Best Practice Geriatric Oral Health Training

E-learning module: The Oral Assessment Tool (OHAT)

<http://www.healthcare.uiowa.edu/igec/e-learn/lic/dentistry/default.asp>