

# All about cavities and understanding them

#### **Types of caries**



**Occlusal** 

Caries that form on the biting surface of the teeth



Root

Caries that form at the base of the teeth



Caries that form in between teeth

#### **Progression of caries**



**Decay in enamel** 

No pain



**Decay in dentin** 

Painful



Very painful

#### Factors that can increase risk for caries



#### **Oral health**

- Poor oral hygiene
- Exposed root surfaces
- Dry mouth (xerostomia) · Faulty fillings



- High sugar content
- · High levels of starch



#### **Medical conditions**

- Head and neck radiation therapy
- · Eating disorders
- Substance abuse

#### **Protective treatments**



#### Fluoride treatment

Fluoride can be applied as a gel, foam or varnish. It may also be beneficial to switch to prescriptionstrength toothpaste or mouthwash depending on your personal needs.1



#### **Dental sealants**

Dental sealants are thin, protective coatings applied to the chewing surfaces of molars. They're proven to reduce decay by nearly 80%.2

## At-home tips for preventing caries

An effective daily oral care routine can help prevent cavities. Make sure to follow these simple steps.



#### **Brush**

Choose one designed to clean plaque deep between teeth. Brush your teeth with a fluoridated toothpaste twice a day for two minutes. The right tool and technique make all the difference.



### Focus on gumline

For areas of recession, be sure to clean gently along the gumline.



#### **Interdental** cleaning

The spaces in between your teeth are home to harmful bacteria, so clean them thoroughly at least once a day for healthy gums.



#### Replace

Replace your brush head every three months for optimal results.



#### **Checkups**

Visit the dental office 2 times a year, and ask your dental hygienist about professional fluoride recommendations.

# **Sonicare**

Solutions designed to remove plaque

**Power Flosser** uses Quad Stream nozzle to create four wide streams that thoroughly clean between teeth and along the gumline. Up to 99.9% plaque removal in treated areas<sup>3</sup> and up to 1.8x more effective than floss in improving gum health.









**Philips Sonicare power** 



**Premium Plaque Defense and All-in-One** brush heads Both brush heads are clinically proven to provide superior plaque removal



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toothbrush, vs. using a manual toothbrush with string floss

<sup>2</sup> https://www.mouthhealthy.org/en/az-topics/s/sealants