**Oral Care assessment**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| DATE & TIME |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **SELF CARE ASSESSMENT**  1= Performs own oral care  2= Needs encouragement/assistance  3=Unable to perform oral care |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **VOICE**  1= Normal  2= Deeper/raspy  3= Difficult/painful speech |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **SWALLOW**  1= Normal  2= Painful  3= Unable to swallow |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **LIPS**  1= Smooth, pink & moist  2= Dry or cracked  3= Ulcerated or bleeding |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TONGUE**  1= Pink, moist & papillae present  2= Coated or loss of papillae  3= Blistered, cracked or signs of thrush |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **SALIVA**  1= Watery  2= Thick or ropey  3= Absent |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **MUCOUS MEMBRANES**  1= Pink & moist  2= Reddened or coated (increased  whiteness) without ulcerations  3= Ulceration, with or without  bleeding |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **GUMS**  1= Pink & firm  2= Oedematous, with or without  redness or signs of thrush  3= Spontaneous bleeding |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TEETH/DENTURES**  1= Clean, no debris  2= Localised plaque or debris  3= Generalised plaque or debris |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **NON VERBAL COMMUNICATION**  1= Normal  2= With difficulty  3= Unable |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **PAIN** (may score more than once)  1= Pain-free  2= Require topical analgesia  3= Require systemic analgesia |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **COMPLICATIONS**  1= No evidence  2= Haemorrhagic mucositis  3= Presence of infection  (viral/fungal) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **NUTRITIONAL STATUS**  1= Normal/Enteral Feed  2= Soft diet  3= Fluids only or NBM |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **OTHER SITUATIONS** (may score  more than once)  1= Mouth breathing, oxygen  therapy  2= Chemo/radiotherapy  3= Intubated, CPAP/BIPAP |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Name of staff and signature |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Adapted from Eilers J et al 1998

The intervention should be based on the rating for each category:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Rating** | **Description** | **Nursing Interventions** |
| 1 | Normal findings | Continue with routine oral care  No treatment |
| 2 | Mild abnormality | Continue with routine oral care;  Close monitoring;  Create an acute care plan with an action plan;  Inform ANP/GP |
| 3 | Severe abnormality | Perform oral care with caution;  Close monitoring;  Create an acute care plan with an action plan;  Inform ANP/GP  Perform treatment as ordered |