

# GUM DISEASE: what it is, how it evolves

## Tooth

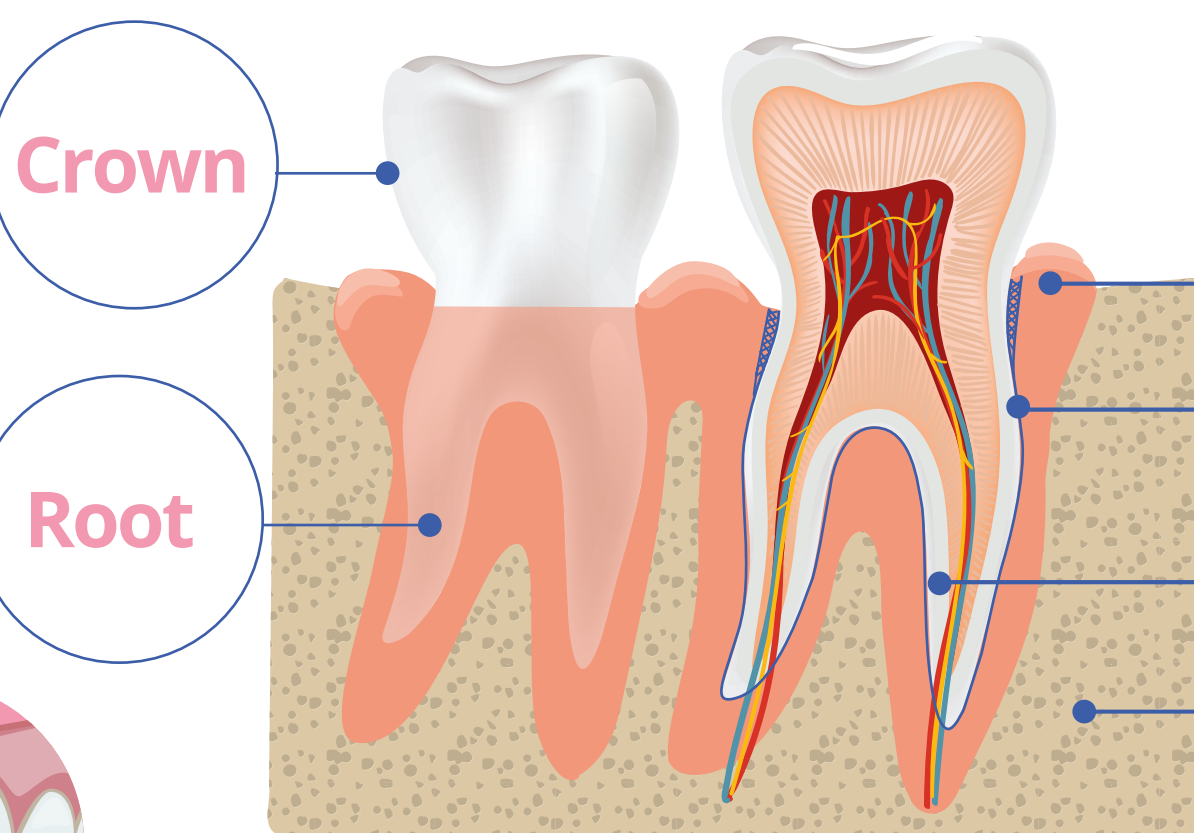
divides into 2 parts:

### Crown

is the visible part we bite with

### Root

is the invisible part, which fixes the tooth to the bone and bone to the gum through the periodontium (tissues that surround & support the tooth)



## Periodontium

consists of 4 components

### Gum or gingiva

the pink, visible cover

### Periodontal ligament

attachment fibres fastening tooth to the bone

### Cementum

covering & holding the root

### Alveolar bone

where the root is anchored

HEALTHY



## Most pregnant women do suffer gum disease to a greater or lesser degree

Gum disease (periodontal disease) begins at the **gingival sulcus**, the covering soft tissue around the neck of the teeth and shows itself by gum bleeding, e.g. after toothbrushing

### PROGRESSION OF GUM DISEASE:

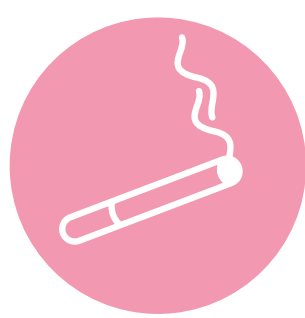
## 1 > GINGIVITIS



Pregnancy hormones



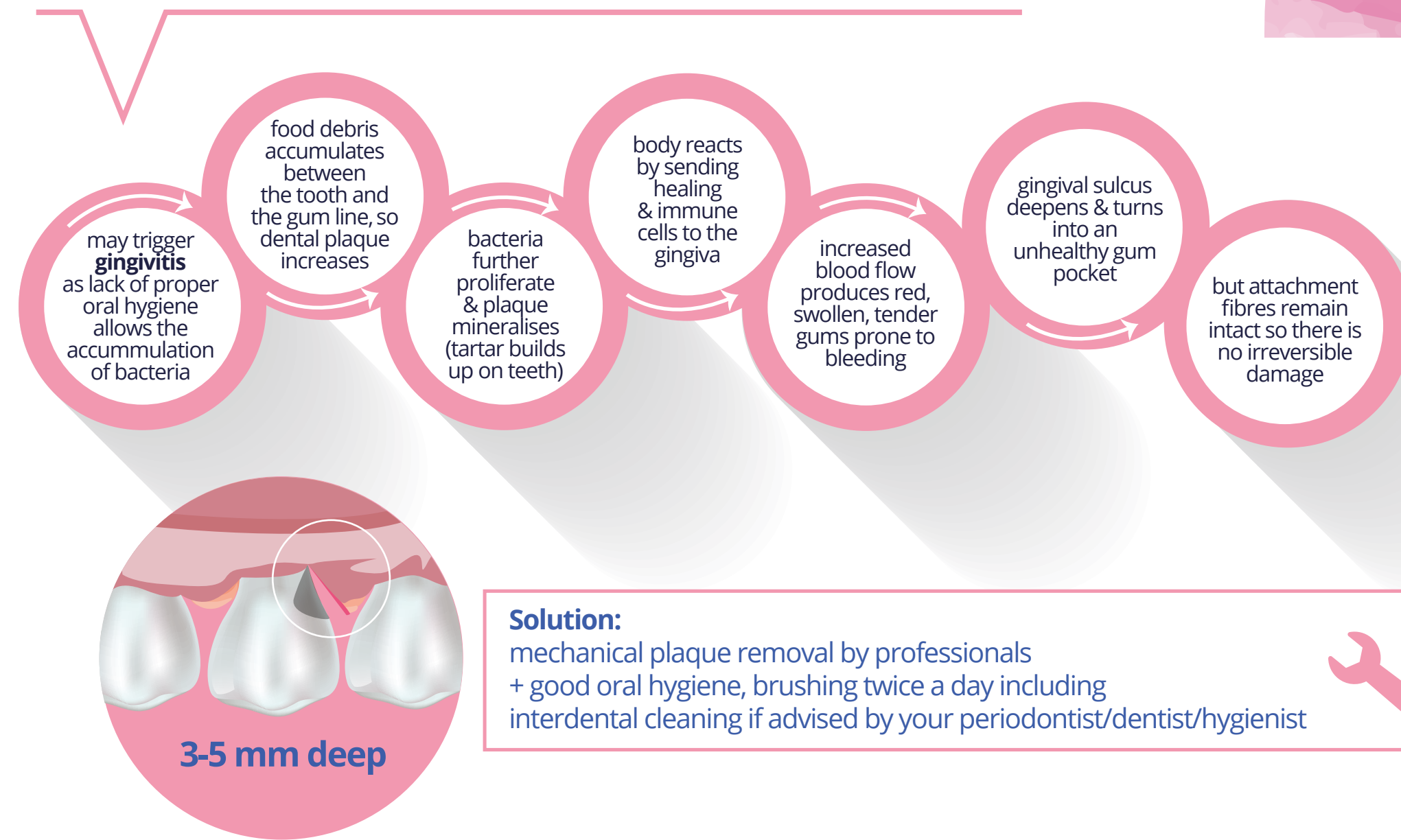
Poor oral hygiene



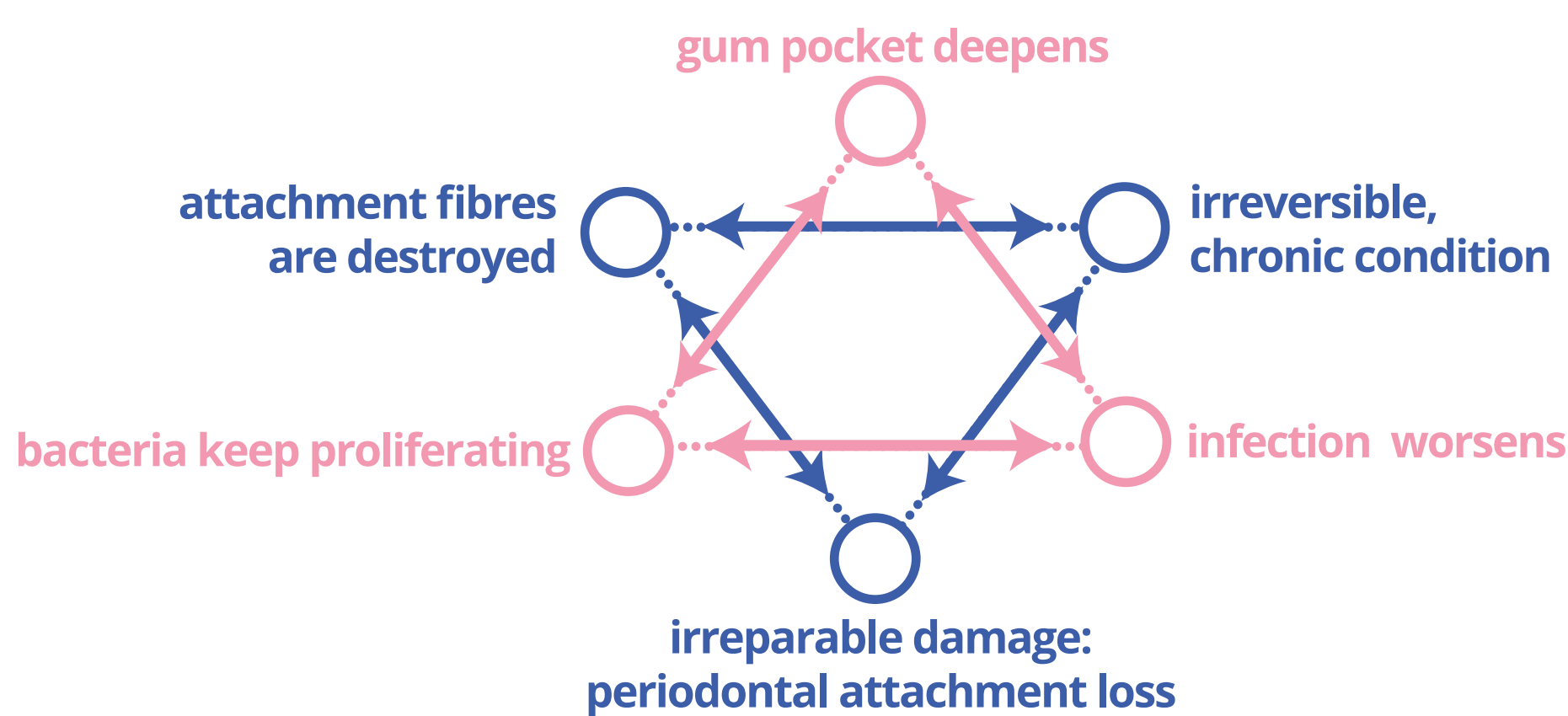
Smoking



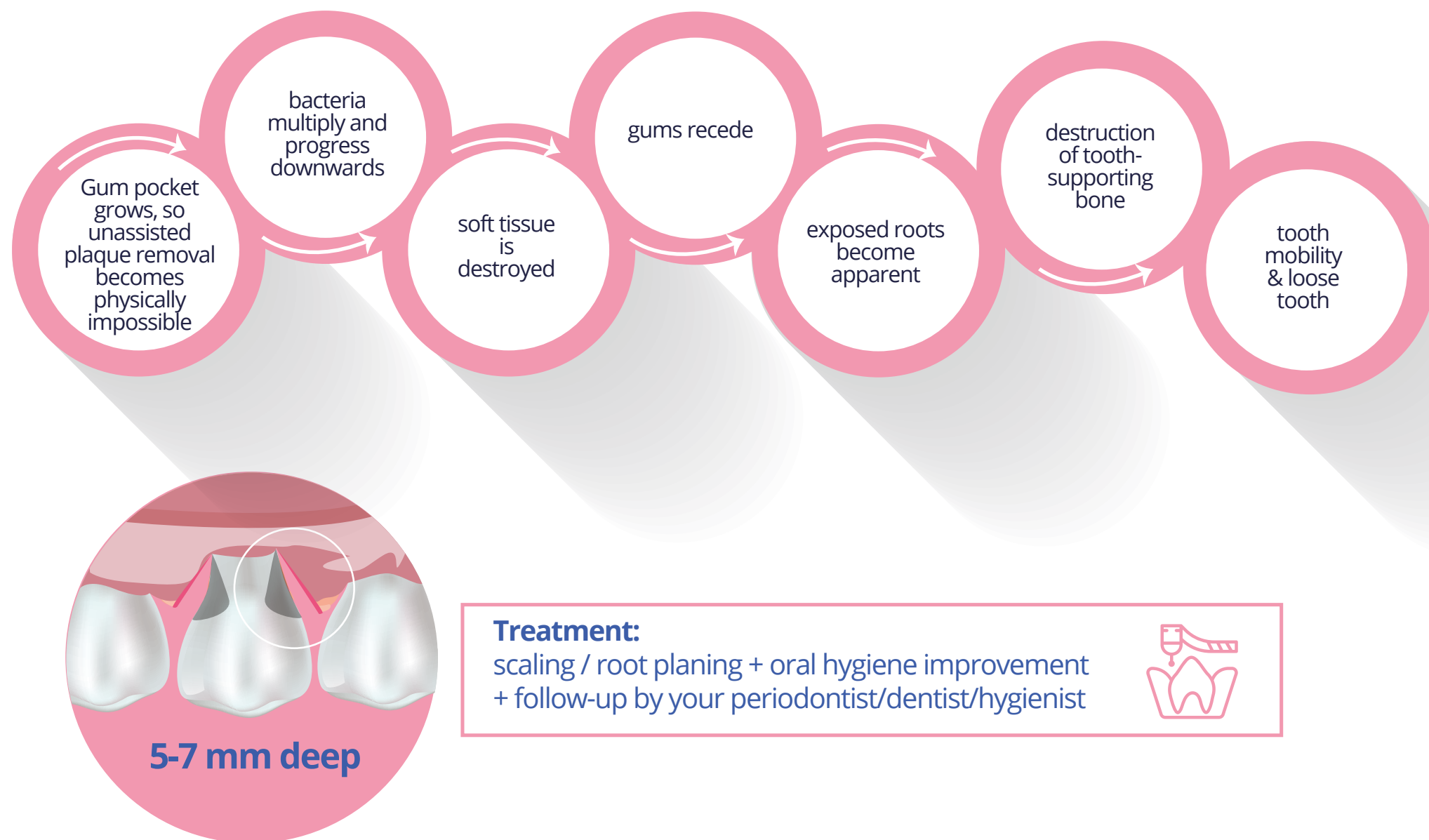
Diseases & other factors



If untreated, gingivitis aggravates & may evolve into periodontitis as



## 2 > PERIODONTITIS



Make sure that gum disease does not become an issue during pregnancy