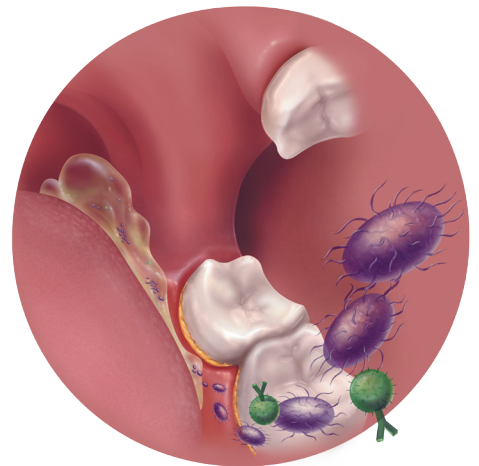


# Frequent Oral Care is Important For All Patients

## The oral cavity is a proven source of hospital-acquired pneumonias (HAPs):<sup>1,2</sup>

- Bacteria that cause nosocomial respiratory disease colonize the oropharyngeal area, including dental plaque.<sup>3,4</sup>
- These pathogens can be aspirated into the lungs and cause infection.<sup>4</sup>



Reference: 1. B Schleder, et al., "The Effect of a Comprehensive Oral Care Protocol on Patients at Risk for Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia," Journal of Advocate Health Care. 4(1):27-30, Spring/Summer 2002. 2. Tablan OC, et al., Guidelines for preventing health-care-associated pneumonia, 2003, Recommendations of CDC and Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC), 2003. 3. Scannapieco FA J Periodontology. 1999 Jul; 70(7):793-802. 4. Fourrier F, et al., Crit Care Med. 1998;26:301-8.