

DENTURE SORE MOUTH (*denture-related stomatitis*)

Please read this information sheet. If you have any questions, particularly about the treatment or potential side-effects, please ask Professor.

- Denture sore mouth is common, but rarely sore
- It is caused mainly by a yeast (*Candida*) that usually lives harmlessly in the mouth and elsewhere
- It is not transmitted to others
- It may be precipitated by prolonged wearing of a dental appliance, especially at night, which allows the yeast to grow
- It predisposes to sores at the corners of the mouth (angular cheilitis)
- It has no serious long-term consequences
- Blood tests, microbiological studies or biopsy *may* be required
- It is best controlled by
 - leaving out the appliance, allowing the mouth to heal
 - disinfecting the appliance (as per additional instructions)
 - using antifungal creams or gels (e.g. Daktarin) or tablets (e.g. Nystan, Fungilin, Diflucan) regularly for up to 4 weeks
- The appliance may require adjustment or changing
- Useful website: <http://www.emedicine.com/derm/topic642.htm>

A patient has the right under common law to give or withhold consent to medical examination of treatment. This is one of the basic principles of health care. Patients are entitled to receive sufficient information in a way they can understand about the proposed treatments, the possible alternatives and any substantial risk or risks which may be special in kind or magnitude or special to the patient, so that they can make a balanced judgement. (UK Health Dept. 19.2.99. HSC 1999/031)

Professor Crispian Scully CBE
Eastman Dental Institute for Oral Health Care Sciences
and International Centres for Excellence in Dentistry
University of London
256, Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8LD
www.eastman.ucl.ac.uk
February 2005