

# **Dentistry Reach**

### Foods That Are Good for Oral Health

- Dairy Products (Milk, Cheese, Yogurt)
  - Rich in calcium and phosphorus, which strengthen tooth enamel.
  - Help neutralize acids in the mouth, reducing the risk of cavities.
- ✓ Fruits & Vegetables (Apples, Carrots, Leafy Greens, Celery)
  - High in fiber, which helps clean teeth and gums.
  - Contain vitamins (especially Vitamin C) that support gum health.
- Nuts & Seeds (Almonds, Walnuts, Sunflower Seeds)
  - Provide minerals like calcium and phosphorus that strengthen teeth.
  - Help protect enamel and maintain overall oral health.
- Lean Proteins (Fish, Chicken, Eggs, Beans)
  - Contain phosphorus and protein, which are essential for strong teeth and bones.
- ✓ Water (Especially Fluoridated Water)
  - Keeps the mouth hydrated and washes away food particles.
  - Fluoridated water helps prevent tooth decay.

## Foods & Drinks That Harm Oral Health

- X Sugary Foods (Candy, Cakes, Cookies, Sodas, Juices)
  - Sugar feeds harmful bacteria in the mouth, leading to cavities and gum disease.
- X Sticky & Chewy Snacks (Dried Fruits, Caramel, Gummy Candies)
  - Stick to teeth and provide a breeding ground for bacteria.
- X Acidic Foods & Drinks (Citrus Fruits, Soda, Wine, Vinegar-based Dressings)

• Erode tooth enamel over time, making teeth more sensitive and prone to decay.

#### X Carbonated Drinks (Soft Drinks, Energy Drinks, Flavored Sparkling Water)

• Contain acid and sugar that weaken enamel and increase the risk of cavities.

# Tips for Maintaining Good Oral Health Through Diet

- ✓ Eat a Balanced Diet Include dairy, fresh fruits, vegetables, lean proteins, and whole grains in your daily meals.
- ✓ Limit Sugary Snacks & Drinks Reduce the intake of sweets and sugary beverages. If you consume them, rinse your mouth with water afterward.
- ✓ **Drink Plenty of Water** Helps wash away food particles and bacteria.
- ✓ Chew Sugar-Free Gum Stimulates saliva production, which helps clean the mouth and strengthen enamel.
- ✓ Eat Crunchy Fruits & Vegetables Help clean teeth naturally and promote saliva flow.
- ✓ **Avoid Late-Night Snacking** Saliva production decreases at night, making the mouth more vulnerable to cavities.
- ✓ Brush & Floss Regularly Brush twice a day and floss daily to remove plaque and food debris.

# **Final Words**

Your diet plays a vital role in your oral health. By choosing the right foods and avoiding harmful ones, you can keep your teeth strong and your gums healthy. Remember, **good nutrition + good oral hygiene = a healthy smile for life!**