A study published in the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology* has found that people with advanced gum disease are much more likely to suffer complications from coronavirus, including being more likely to require a ventilator and to die from the disease.¹

The research, which examined more than 500 patients, found those with severe gum disease were up to nine times more likely to die from COVID-19. It also found that patients with the disease were nearly five times more likely to need assisted ventilation.

Coronavirus has now infected around 4.1 million people in the UK.² An estimated 90% of UK adults have some form of gum disease.³

The Oral Health Foundation is keen to highlight the importance of taking early action against the signs of gum disease, following research that suggests far too many people ignore it. For more information visit http://eklundfoundation.org/.

### References

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