



Bad Taste – Oral Dysgeusia

Local Factors

A) Oral

- Specific foods curries, garlic
- Mouth
- Oral appliances with metal corrossions
- Poor oral hygiene
- Infections – oral and nasal
- Candida Albicans

B) Trauma

- Radiotherapy – loss of papillae on the tongue can take 4 months to recover.
- Parafunction habits involving clenching bruxism and tongue thrusting have been associated with persistent salty and electric battery tastes.

C) Tobacco

D) Saliva

- Change in quality or quantity effects number of taste receptors.

E) Head injury

F) Developmental

- Genetic non tasters – homozygous recessive gene.
- Defective metabolism of acetylcholine and inability to taste, have no fungiform or circumvallate papillae on the tongue.

Systemic

A) Drugs

- Commonly reported bitter or metallic taste with Metronidazole, Tetracyclines and or other drugs.

B) Bulimia & Gord

- Due to damage to tongue taste receptors.

C) Early Pregnancy

D) Diabetes

E) Age

- Usually a complex interaction between local and systemic factors and that taste in the elderly is functionally intact.

Please do not hesitate to contact staff with any enquiries