# **Dental Caries**

## What Are Dental Caries?

- <u>Cavities</u>- holes that penetrate your tooth's enamel, unwanted, unpleasant, often painful
  - Tooth Decay- germs, food and unprotected teeth
    - Plaque (sticky whitish stuff)- promotes tooth decay

## What Is The Cause?

- Genetics- (weak enamel)
- Inadequate fluoride
- **<u>Poor</u>** oral hygiene habits
- Inadequate supply of saliva, caused by illness or medications

## Information:

- <u>Counteracts the Cavity causing Effects</u>- aged cheese along with sugar and starches
- Good for Teeth- Green tea, chocolate, peanuts, fruits and vegetables
- Eat- high fiber foods, drink plenty of sugar free fluids, water

#### What Can I Do?

- See your Health Care Provider or Dentist- for more information
- **<u>Brush</u>** a minimum of twice a day-in morning and at night
- Floss- at least once per day
- **<u>Regular</u>** Checkup with your Dentist, Cleaning of the Teeth
- **<u>Diet</u>** see a Registered Dietitian









