# Oral health

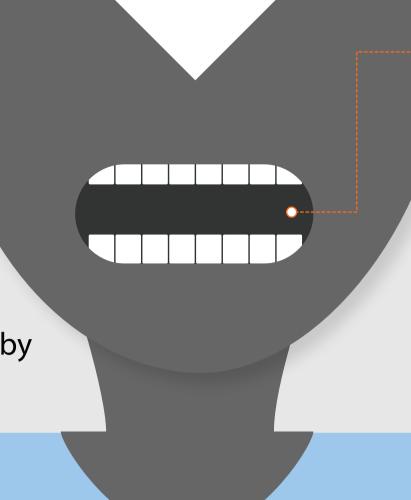
#### 3.5 billion

people worldwide



and around
400 million
people in the
WHO African
Region were affected by
oral disease in 2017.

In the WHO African
Region, the spectrum of oral diseases also includes
Noma which is a necrotizing disease that affects children between the ages of 2 and 6 years.



### Almost all

are largely preventable, or can be treated in their early stages.



make up the bulk of the oral disease burden

- dental caries, or tooth decay
- 2. gum disease
- 3. oral cancers
- 4. oral manifestations of HIV
- 5. oro-dental trauma
- 6. cleft lips and palates.



### Untreated dental caries

of permanent teeth is one of the most prevalent diseases globally and regionally.





Most oral diseases in the African Region

### remain untreated

due to



a lack /unequal distribution of oral health professionals



a lack of appropriate facilities



and - in many countries in Africa - no dedicated oral health budget – which means that people have to incur significant out-of-pocket expenses for obtaining oral health service.

### **Modifiable risk factors**

are common to most oral diseases and conditions as well as the four leading NCDs.\* For example:



tobacco use





unhealthy diets (high in free sugars)

## Public health interventions

can reduce the burden of oral diseases and other NCDs by addressing common risk factors.

