

Tetracycline Stains



By: Michelle Barreto

DEN 1114 Histology & Embryology

What are Tetracycline stains?

- They are stains caused by the use of Tetracycline antibiotics
- Can be used to treat infections
 - Acne
 - UTI
 - Chlamydia
 - Other
- Appear yellowish brown, light green or gray-brown.
- Stains can range from slight, moderate and severe



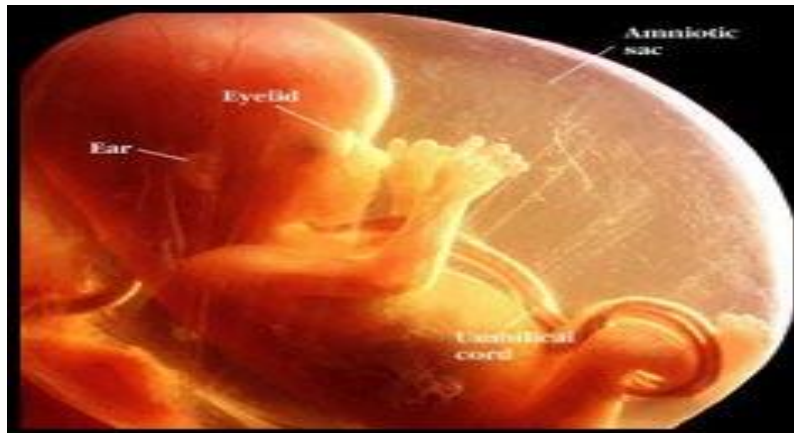
Not all users of Tetracycline antibiotics develop stains...

So what causes these stains?



Pregnancy

- One way to acquire these stains is by the use of tetracycline antibiotics during pregnancy, especially during the **FETAL PERIOD** (3-9 months).
- At this point the antibiotics can pass from the mother's placenta and enter the fetal circulation.
- This can cause staining of the child's primary teeth.



Infancy or Early Childhood

- A second way to develop tetracycline stains is if these antibiotics are taken by a child during infancy or early childhood.
- This will have an effect on the developing permanent dentition.



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How it happens

- Tetracyclines have an affinity for mineralized tissues.
- They become chemically bound to the dentin for the life of the tooth and are easily seen due to the transparency of the enamel.
- The stains are only of ***esthetic*** concern, but they can have a negative impact on the patient's appearance and self-esteem.



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Treatment

As part of the dental team, it is our duty to inform the patient about the possible treatment plans to correct this disturbance.

Through restorative procedures the patient may ...

➤ Option 1: Elect to have veneers placed on anterior teeth.

or

➤ Option 2: Full crowns placed on affected/ chosen teeth

or

➤ Option 3: In some cases bleaching can be a solution, depending on severity of the stain.



Conclusion

- These restorative procedures can transform a patient's overall appearance and smile into a much more natural look.

BEFORE



AFTER

