



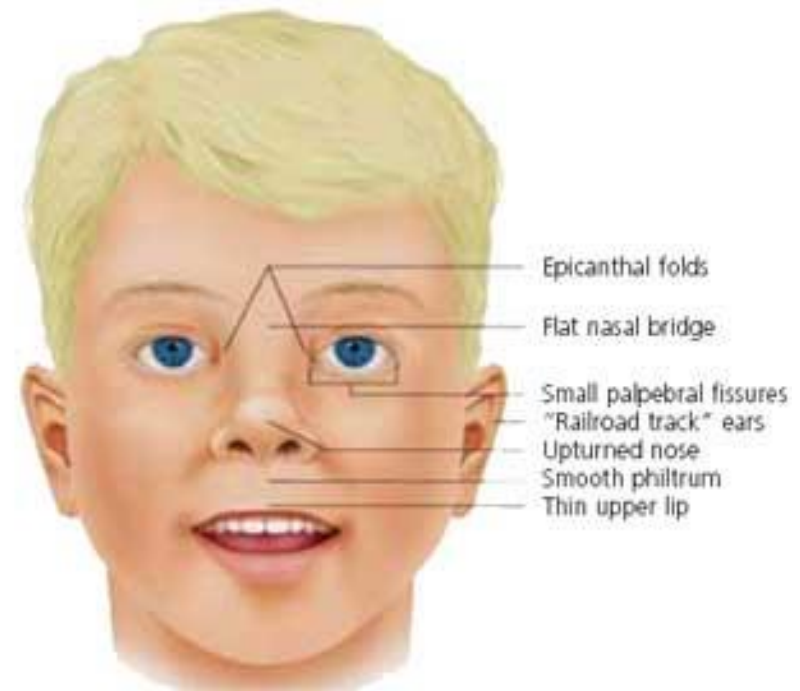
# Down Syndrome

Eun Jin Lee  
DEN 1114

# Developmental Disturbances/Abnormalities of Down Syndrome

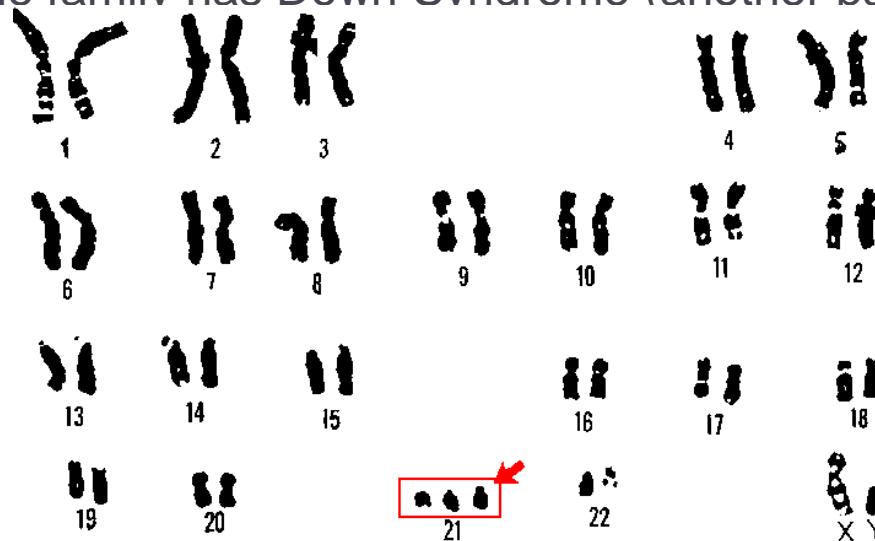
---

- ▶ Down Syndrome is a genetic disorder that happens before birth.
- ▶ Down Syndrome is typically associated with...
  - ▶ Physical growth delays
  - ▶ Characteristic facial features
  - ▶ Mild to moderate intellectual disability
    - as adults, their mental abilities are typically similar to those of 8 or 9 years old.
  - ▶ Poor immune function
  - ▶ High risk of other health problems
    - leukemia, thyroid disease, epilepsy, dental issues, and more



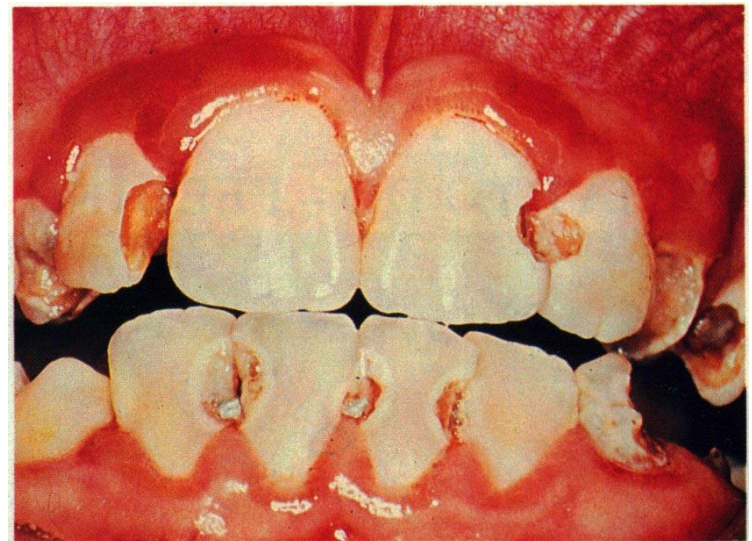
# Etiology

- ▶ Down Syndrome is caused by a chromosomal defects of the baby.
- ▶ Normally, a person has 46 chromosomes whereas a person with Down Syndrome is born with an extra (full or partial) chromosome on pair 21.
- ▶ Down Syndrome occurs when the baby is in the mother's womb and it can be detected by screening tests and diagnostic tests.
- ▶ Your risk of having a baby with Down Syndrome is higher if...
  - ▶ you are older when you get pregnant (age of 35 or older)
  - ▶ someone in the family has Down Syndrome (another baby, brother or sister)



# Dental Abnormalities

- ▶ Tooth eruption can be delayed for as long as 2 years.
- ▶ Small maxillary jaw causes crowding of teeth and may result in the permanent teeth being impacted.
- ▶ Teeth will appear smaller or in some case, missing.
  - ▶ This causes spacing between teeth
- ▶ Tongues may appear as larger than average.
  - ▶ Has grooves and fissures
- ▶ Periodontal disease occurs more frequently than others because of the poor immune system they have.



# Role of Dental Team

---

- ▶ Orthodontic treatment may be recommended.
- ▶ Because of the high risk of periodontal disease they have, it is key for dental hygienists and dentists to be sure they visit the dentist regularly and monitor their periodontal and oral health.
- ▶ Teaching them or the guardian the proper tooth brushing and flossing techniques is critical for further prevention and to minimize inflammation.

