The oral body connection

By Fred Michmershuizen, Online Editor

What does oral health have to do with heart health? Quite a bit if you ask some of the leading experts in their respective fields.

Evidence has long shown that those with diseased mouths are at a higher risk for heart attacks and strokes. More recent findings indicate that improving a person’s oral health reduces the risk of atherosclerosis or plaque in arteries. The evidence is so strong that leading experts in periodontology and cardiology are teaming up to encourage other dental and medical professionals to work together.

“The immense power we have as dentists to impact not just our patients’ oral condition but their entire general state of health is becoming clearer in the science when it comes to reducing