

Periodontal Staging & Grading Chart

2017 AAP/EFP CLASSIFICATION

Chairside cheat sheet — stage by severity & complexity, grade by progression risk. Interactive calculator:
advanceddentalhygiene.com/tool/perio-staging

Staging (severity, complexity & extent)

Criterion	Stage I — Initial	Stage II — Moderate	Stage III — Severe	Stage IV — Advanced
Interdental CAL (worst site)	1–2 mm	3–4 mm	≥5 mm	≥5 mm
Radiographic bone loss	Coronal third (<15%)	Coronal third (15–33%)	Middle third of root and beyond	Middle third of root and beyond
Tooth loss (from perio)	None	None	≤4 teeth	≥5 teeth
Complexity	Max PD ≤4 mm, mostly horizontal bone loss	Max PD ≤5 mm, mostly horizontal bone loss	+ PD ≥6 mm, vertical loss ≥3 mm, furcation Class II/III, moderate ridge defects	+ Masticatory dysfunction, mobility ≥2, severe ridge defects, bite collapse/drift, <20 remaining teeth

Initial stage from CAL (use RBL if CAL unavailable). Tooth loss and complexity factors can shift the stage higher — never lower. **Extent descriptor:** localized (<30% of teeth), generalized (≥30%), or molar/incisor pattern.

Grading (rate of progression) — assume Grade B, shift with evidence

Criterion	Grade A — Slow	Grade B — Moderate	Grade C — Rapid
Direct: RBL or CAL loss over 5 yrs	No loss	<2 mm	≥2 mm
Indirect: % bone loss ÷ age	<0.25	0.25–1.0	>1.0
Phenotype	Heavy biofilm, low destruction	Destruction matches biofilm	Destruction exceeds biofilm; rapid/early-onset pattern
Smoking	Non-smoker	<10 cigarettes/day	≥10 cigarettes/day
Diabetes	Normoglycemic / no diagnosis	HbA1c <7.0%	HbA1c ≥7.0%

Whenever available, direct evidence takes priority. Risk-factor modifiers can raise the grade — never lower it.

Example diagnosis statement: "Generalized Stage III, Grade B periodontitis." · Educational reference — not a substitute for professional clinical judgment. Verify against full clinical and radiographic findings.