NOMA is a severe disease
It can be treated if detected early!

First action:
Open and examine children's mouths

Persons at-risk: mostly children aged 2 to 6 years
living in conditions of malnutrition and extreme poverty

Noma...
...is not a contagious disease, is not transmitted from one person to another
...is not caused by witchcraft or a curse on parents

What are the warning signs for early detection?
• Watch out when a child's mouth is closed and he/she hypersalivates and emits fetid breath with a putrid smell, regardless of whether he/she has fever or not

Signs and symptoms at the very beginning of the disease
• Reddened, swollen gums that bleed spontaneously or when touched
• Fetid breath
• Excessive salivation
• Sore, lesion inside the mouth

The 5 stages of the disease
1. Acute necrotizing gingivitis stage
2. Oedema stage
3. Gangrenous stage
4. Scarring stage
5. Sequelae stage

The electronic version of the poster is available at the following URL: http://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/254580

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