

NOMA is a severe disease

It can be treated if detected early!



First action:
Open and examine
children's mouths

Noma...

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

Persons at-risk: mostly children aged 2 to 6 years

living in conditions of malnutrition and extreme poverty

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

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

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>