

Category	Method of Assessment	Normal no changes 1	Mild to Moderate change 2	Moderate to Severe change 3
<b>Swallow</b>	Ask the child to swallow or observe the swallowing process.  Ask the parent if there are any notable changes	Normal  Without difficulty	Difficulty in swallowing	Unable to swallow  Pooling or dribbling of secretions
<b>Lips</b>	Observe appearance of tissue	Normal/ Smooth, pink and moist	Dry, cracked or swollen	Ulcerated or bleeding
<b>Tongue</b>	Observe the appearance of the tongue using a pen torch to illuminate the oral cavity	Normal  Pink and moist with papillae present	Coated or loss of papillae with shiny appearance with or without redness	Ulcerated, sloughing or cracked
<b>Saliva</b>	Observe consistency and quality of the saliva	Normal  Thin and watery	Excessive amount of saliva, drooling	Thick, ropey or absent
<b>Mucous membranes</b>	Observe the appearance of mucous membranes using a pen torch to illuminate the oral cavity	Normal  Pink and moist	Reddened or coated without ulcerations	Ulceration or sloughing, with or without bleeding
<b>Gingivae</b>	Observe the appearance of gingivae using a pen torch to illuminate the oral cavity	Normal  Pink and firm	Oedematous	Spontaneous bleeding
<b>Teeth</b>	Observe the appearance of teeth using a pen torch to illuminate the oral cavity	Normal  Clean and no debris	Plaque or debris in localized areas	Generalised plaque or debris along gum line
<b>Voice</b>	Talk and listen to the child  Ask parent if there are any notable changes	Normal	Deeper or raspy	Difficult or unable to talk or cry

\*Oral Assessment Guide- adapted from Eilers, A. & Peterson, M. (1998) & the GOSH Oral Care Working Party (2004)