

## **TONGUE PIERCING**

### **The Risky Truth About Mouth Jewelry**

Body piercing has become the new fashion of the times. With this new trend comes many long-term side effects. This information is not to judge you, but merely to inform you of the risks involved in tongue piercing.

Your mouth contains millions of bacteria, and infection is a common complication of oral piercing.

#### **Piercing Side Effects:**

Pain and swelling: large enough to close off your airway  
Infection of the tongue and surrounding tissue  
Difficulty in eating, drinking, and speaking

#### **Jewelry Effects:**

Choking caused by loose studs, barbells or hoops  
Chipped or cracked teeth from contact with oral jewelry

Please take this information into consideration before piercing your tongue. These risks are not uncommon and should not be taken lightly. As dental professionals, we have seen first hand the increase in teens with permanent damage to their smile due to tongue piercing. Feel free to view our *Caesy* video on tongue piercing which features pictures of the effects of oral piercing.

