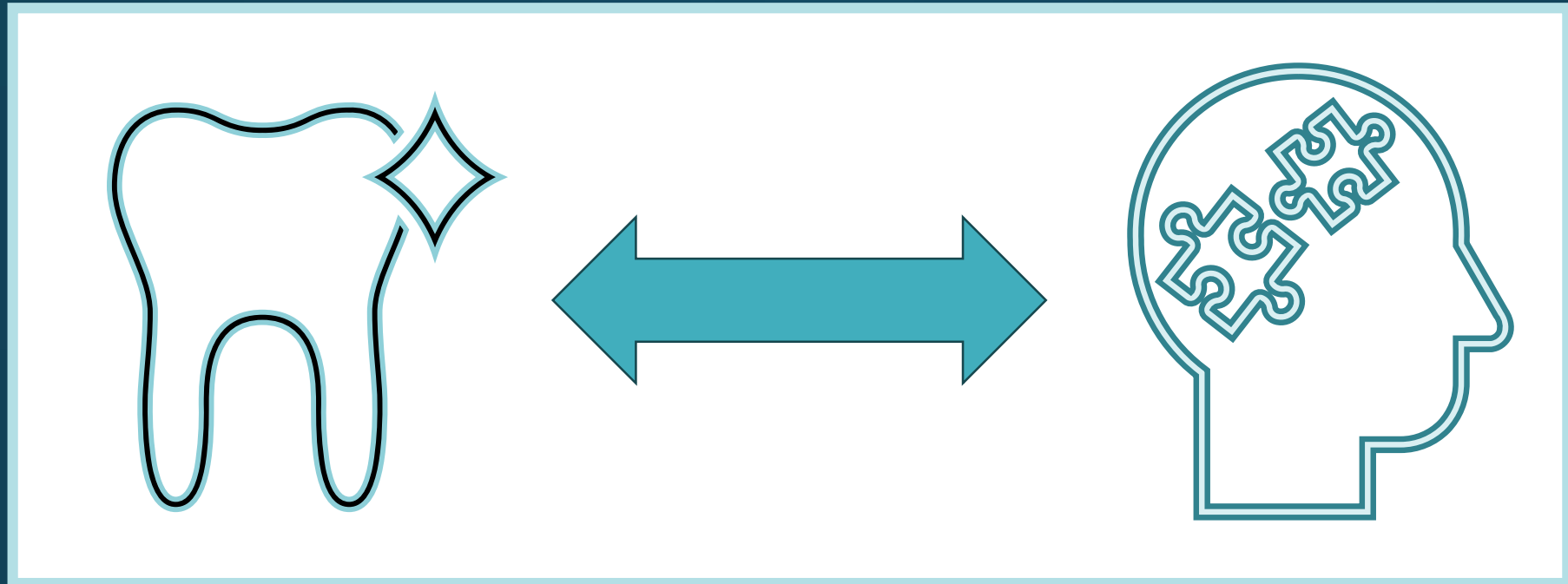


Oral and mental health interact.

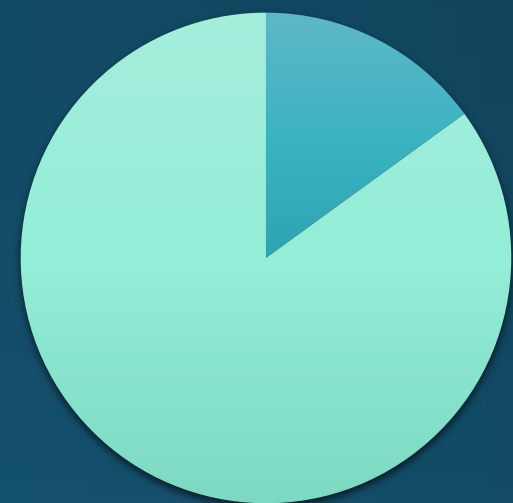
By: Maya Wetherbee



As symptoms of depression and anxiety increase, the more likely for poor oral health to be displayed.



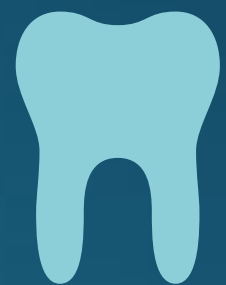
15% of Americans aged 65+ years old are diagnosed with depression and anxiety
(Zenebe et al., 2021).



As oral health suffers, poor quality of life and mental health issues may be intensified (Cleveland Clinic, 2022).



Dry mouth, a symptom of poor oral health, is a common symptom of antidepressants (Kenny et al., 2020).



Approximately 2/3 of people diagnosed with depression suffer from a toothache in 2020 (Delta Dental, 2021).