

INTRAORAL EVALUATION

Observation of Frenal Attachment and vestibular Areas

- Extend lower lip, observe frenal attachment [feel], mucosa and vestibular area (recession)
- Repeat on upper lip (diastema)
- Observe vermillion portion of lips and note any changes

Lips

- Roll tissues of upper and lower lips with index and thumbs

Buccal Mucosa

- Observe buccal mucosa, and palpate tissue by rolling it between your finger and thumb
- Dry parotid papillae

Tongue

- Have client extend tongue, wrap tip of tongue in moistened gauze square and direct the tongue to one side and observe lateral borders
- Check color of tongue
- Palpate lateral borders of tongue
- Have client extend tongue to roof of mouth while keeping mandible open

Floor of the Mouth

- Observe lingual attachment and sublingual folds
- Palpate tissue by using index finger of one hand and opposite hand under chin. Compress tissue

Hard/Soft Palate, Oral Pharynx and Tonsillar Area

- Observe: Raphe, Rugae, Incisive papilla, junction of hard/soft palate, uvula, anterior and posterior palate, tonsils
- Palpate hard palate
- Use tongue blade, have client say "ahh"

Gingiva and Alveolar Bone

- Run finger and thumb around the arch until you reach the other side on each arch
- Observe gingival: color, contour, consistency, surface texture