Special Safety Precautions

Always check with Charge Nurse before providing oral care to make sure there are no safety concerns.

MOUTHWASH, WATER, AND TOOTHPASTE SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR THE FOLLOWING RESIDENTS:

1. Comatose patient
2. Patient on a restricted diet of thickened liquids that can’t have thin liquids
3. Patients with swallowing problems
4. Care resistant patient
5. Patient who holds liquids in their mouth
6. Patient who can’t or won’t spit but instead swallows liquids placed in mouth

In the above cases, you may simply brush the teeth with a toothbrush moistened slightly with water or mouthwash as the charge nurse directs.

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