

Medical Dental Integration (MDI)

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Speaker

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Disclosure

In the past 24 months, I have NOT had any financial relationships with any ineligible companies.

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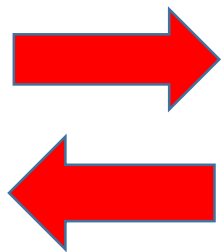
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Objectives

- Understand the concept of medical dental integration
- Recognize the current inadequacies of this model
- Understand factors required to facilitate better medical dental integration
- Recognize the relevance of the oral systemic connection

The Ideal Situation

Medical  Dental

Reality

Medical



Dental

Key Findings:

Medical-dental collaboration is currently uncommon.



63% of consumers report that their **primary medical doctor** “rarely” or “never” asks about their oral health.



33% of consumers report that their **oral health provider** “rarely” or “never” asks about their overall health.



45% of responding oral health providers report “rarely” integrating their care with clinicians outside of dentistry, with only **14%** reporting it is part of their “daily” practice.

- **Less than a third** of consumers report receiving general health screenings from their oral health provider.
- **A majority (89%)** of adults report never receiving a referral from their oral health provider to a non-oral health professional.
- **Almost a fourth (24%)** of participating oral health providers report **currently implementing interprofessional practice.**

What is Medical-Dental Integration (MDI)?

- Working together to provide integrated oral, medical + behavioral health care
- An approach to care that integrates + coordinates dental medicine into primary care + behavior health to support individual + population health
- Whole-person care that extends beyond teeth
- A patient-centered continuum of care where the healthcare team multi-directionally communicate, collaborate + share patient health information in order to improve overall health outcomes
- Systems to allow bi-directional communication + collaboration between dentists + physicians in order to advance overall health

Policy + Legislation

- “For the past 50 years, the US health care system has been focused primarily on promoting + supporting the technological advancement of medicine. That focus has cured disease, enhanced therapies + saved lives. But as that focus + the success it has achieved, has dominated what + how we pay for health care, we have failed to appreciate the changing nature of illness + the systemic gaps in care delivery that have been created by this approach”.
- House No. 4134 October 18, 2019

Organization Comments

- In 2020, the [ADA](#) passed Resolution 84H-2020, stating that, especially in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, "dentistry is essential and should remain an independent health care profession that safeguards, promotes and provides care for the health of the public, which may be in collaboration with other health care professionals."
- A similar message was released in 2021 by the [World Dental Federation](#) to policymakers, which called "for oral health to be considered an essential element of general health and well-being."
- A [U.S. surgeon general's](#) report in 2020 stressed the social and behavioral inequities that limit access to care. The report provided a call to action, urging policymakers, health care professionals and the community to "work together to provide integrated oral, medical and behavioral health care" and to address "social, economic, or other systemic inequities that affect oral health behaviors and access to care."

Continued

- The [Surgeon General's](#) report of 2000 was updated in 2021, echoing the original statement while stressing the social + behavioral inequities that limit access to care
- The report provides a call to action, urging policymakers, healthcare professionals + the community to “work together to provide integrated oral, medical + behavioral health care” + to address “social, economic, or other systemic inequities that affect oral health behaviors + access to care.”

ADA Policy on Oral-Systemic Health

ADA Policy on Oral-Systemic Health

Oral-Systemic Health Integration (Trans.2022:XXX)

- Resolved, that the ADA supports + encourages treatment to optimize a patient's oral health status prior to organ transplants, joint replacements, cardiac surgery + other medical procedures

and be it further

- Resolved, that the ADA supports + encourages research, collaboration + appropriate treatment discussions between dentists + other health care providers to help identify systemic diseases which are suspected to have a relationship to a patient's oral health

Oral Systemic Health

- While the idea that oral bacteria may contribute to disease in other parts of the body has been discussed since at least the late 19th century, for the last several decades a number of systemic diseases have been associated with oral health, particularly cardiovascular diseases + diabetes
- There are two mechanisms which have been hypothesized to explain the observed associations
 - Firstly, chronic inflammation in the oral cavity may increase levels of inflammatory markers in the bloodstream affecting immune response, or adding to the body's general burden of disease
 - Secondly, the oral cavity may act as a reservoir for pathogenic bacteria that can enter the bloodstream + affect distant-site or systemic pathologies (systemic endotoxemia or bacteremia)

Continued

- In 2000, the [Surgeon General](#) issued a report on the status of oral health in the US, recognizing an association between:
 - periodontal disease
 - cardiovascular health
 - stroke
 - diabetes + metabolic disorders
 - adverse pregnancy outcomes
 - Alzheimer’s disease +dementia
 - obesity
 - rheumatoid arthritis
 - several cancers
- Despite the lack of evidence of a causal link between periodontal disease + other system health concerns, the report emphasized that “Oral health is integral to general health. You cannot be healthy without oral health.”

Mouth Body Connection

PERIODONTAL DISEASE

The Surgeon General reports that at least 80% of American adults have gum disease.

-AAOSH

Cavities are caused by a germ that spreads while kissing & sharing food.

-American Academy for Oral Systemic Health

HEART DISEASE

People with Gum Disease are 2X as likely to die from Heart Attack and 3X as likely to die from stroke.

-Mayo Clinic

DIABETES

Diabetes & bleeding gums increases your risk of premature death by 400-700 percent.

-American Academy for Oral Systemic Health

95% of people with gum disease are at risk for diabetes.

-AAOSH

PREGNANCY COMPLICATIONS

Pregnant women with gum disease have only a 1 in 7 chance of giving birth to a healthy child of normal size.

-AAOSH

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Tooth loss & gum disease increase the risk of Alzheimer's disease.

-Mayo Clinic

Gum disease increases the risk of head & neck cancer.

-AAOSH

ATHEROSCLEROSIS

Bacteria in your mouth travel to other parts of your body in your bloodstream.

-American Academy for Oral Systemic Health

RESPIRATORY PROBLEMS

Poor oral hygiene can increase the risk for pneumonia & respiratory infections.

-Journal of American Dental Association

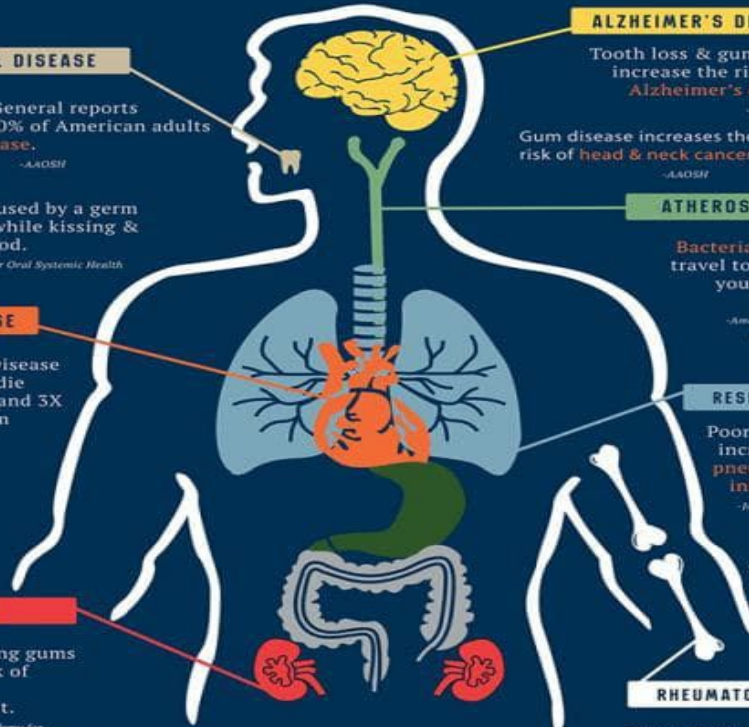
Gum disease increases pancreatic & kidney cancer risk by 62%.

-Harvard

RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

Research has found an association between gum disease and rheumatoid arthritis.

-American Academy of Family Physicians



WITHOUT GOOD PERIODONTAL HEALTH, YOU CAN'T HAVE GOOD GENERAL HEALTH.

Periodontal disease (gum disease) can affect your general health... and it can be affected by your general health.

Here are a few examples:

RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS²⁷

- Inhaling bacteria from the mouth and throat can lead to pneumonia
- Dental plaque buildup creates a dangerous source of bacteria that can be inhaled into the lungs

SEVERE OSTEOPENIA¹¹

- Reduction in bone mass (osteopenia) is associated with gum disease and related tooth loss
- Severity has been connected to tooth loss in postmenopausal women

PRETERM OR LOW BIRTHWEIGHT BABIES¹⁸

- Women with advanced gum disease may be more likely to give birth to an underweight or preterm baby²⁷
- Oral microbes can cross the placental barrier, exposing the fetus to infection.¹⁷



STROKE¹

- Those with adult periodontitis may have increased risk of stroke

HEART DISEASE¹⁰

- Those with adult periodontitis may have increased risk of fatal heart attack...^{1,6,7}
- And are more likely to be diagnosed with cardiovascular disease¹
- Bacteria from the mouth may cause clotting problems in the cardiovascular system⁸

UNCONTROLLED DIABETES^{12,16}

- Chronic periodontal disease can disrupt diabetic control^{12,16}
- Diabetes can alter the pocket environment, contributing to bacterial overgrowth¹
- Smokers with diabetes increase their risk of tooth loss by 20 times¹³
- People with type II diabetes are 3 times as likely to develop periodontal disease than are nondiabetics¹³

DO YOU HAVE ADULT PERIODONTITIS? WHAT ARE YOU DOING ABOUT IT?

Periodontal disease is common with prevalence of up to 50% overall

What needs to change for MDI?

- Many factors but I will highlight only two
 - Health information technology (HIT)
 - Education

Health information technology (HIT)

- The use of health information exchanges + development of common data + language between medicine + dentistry, among other HIT solutions to integrate medical + dental records, will be crucial for long-term adoption of interprofessional strategies
- Additionally, broader adoption of technology in dentistry can help achieve goals related to better outcomes, shorter appointment processes + easier opportunities for education + knowledge development

Education

Interprofessional Education (IPE)

- World Health Organization (2010)
- IPE occurs “when students from two or more professions learn about, from + with each other to enable effective collaboration + improve health outcomes”

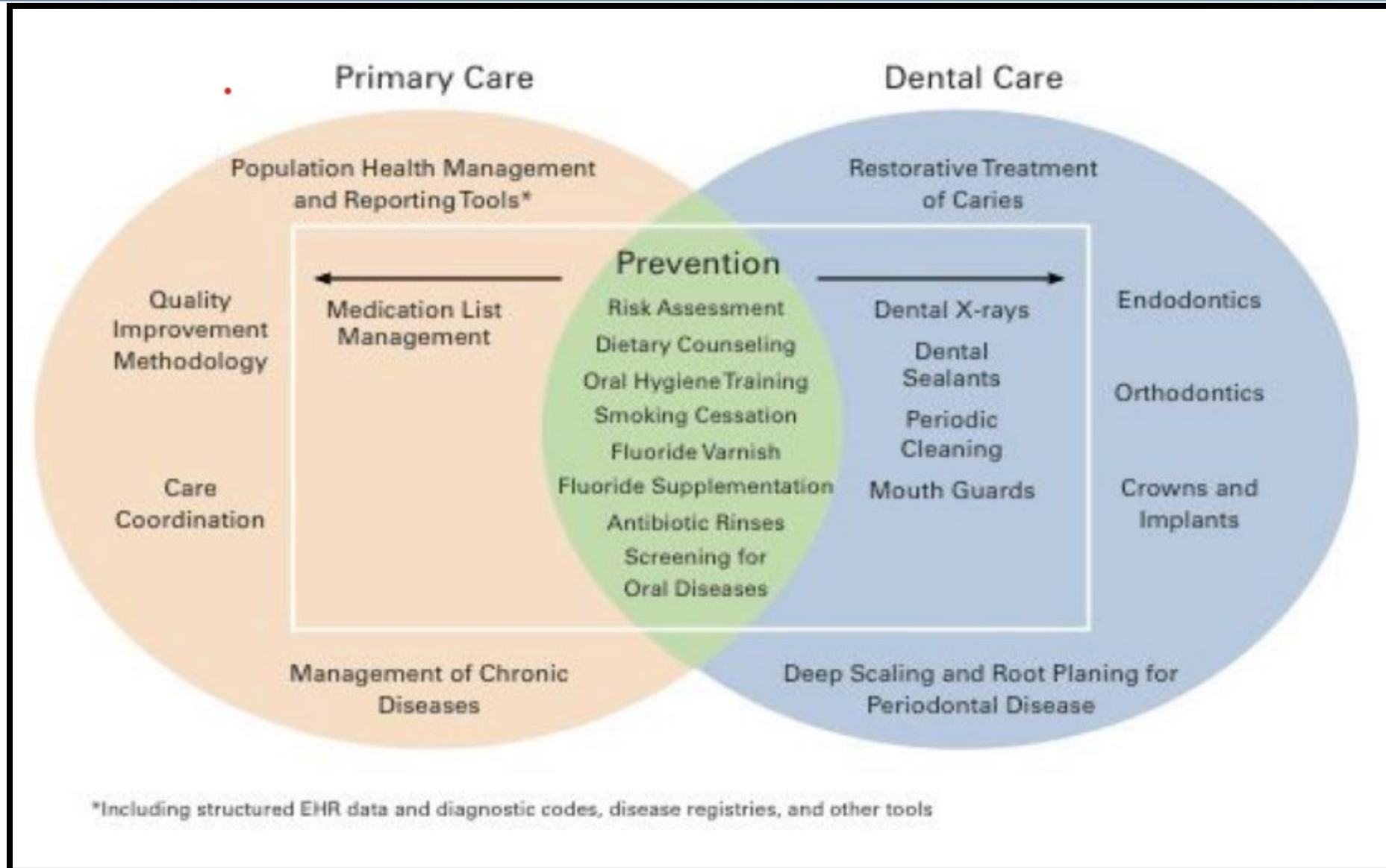




The American Academy for Oral Systemic Health (AAOSH) is a national network of healthcare professionals + advocates dedicated to interdisciplinary collaboration, ongoing research + education of the oral systemic connection

Practice of the Future

- What
 - A comprehensive, patient-centered practice based on an integrated model that combines traditional family medicine with oral health, behavioral health, optometry + social services
- Why
 - To transform how we train health professionals + deliver care + set a new standard





Questions?



THANK YOU

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Contact us: WellAhead@la.gov

Please also feel free to visit the Well-Ahead
website at:

<http://wellaheadla.com>

