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Oral Health Integration Into Primary Health Care

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Bridging the Divide: Integrating Oral Health into Primary Care

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Nursing

Mentor: Margo Reilly (HFHT)



Bridging the Divide

01

Introduction



03

Review of Literature

02

Findings



04

Conclusion

Importance of Oral Health

- Essential to overall health & quality of life
- Bidirectional relationship with systemic health

(Emami et al., 2016); (Rabiei et al., 2012); (Hummel et al., 2015); (McClymont, 2017); (Rowan-Legg, 2013)



Oral Care Issues

- Various barriers to access oral care
- At risk groups vulnerable to poor oral health but delivery system fails to reach them
- Not a part of public health sector increasing inaccessibility
- Overall limited oral health literacy among population



Review of Literature

**From 2010 to
Present**



Databases

Google Scholar

ESCBOhost

PubMed Central

Scholars Portal



Search Terms

oral health, oral
health care, oral care,
integration, primary
health care, & primary
care

2,300,000+



ER visits from 2001-2011
were billed to OHIP for
dental issues





Build the Bridge

01

Reduces disparities among marginalized groups

02

Supports quality patient-centered care

03

Promotes accessibility

(Hummel et al., 2015); (OHA, 2016); (Rowan-Legg, 2013); (Bhuiya & Wilson, 2016); (Barnett et al., 2014); (Atchison et al., 2018); (Garcia et al., 2021); (Harnagea et al., 2018); (Shrivastava et al., 2020); (Spurr et al., 2015); (Rabiei et al., 2012)

Current Oral Health Programs

Bi-directional cross-referral process

Oral risk assessments for pediatrics

In reach program for pregnant women

Accessible locations + easy referral

Raised oral health awareness

Shared decision making

NeighborCare Health, Seattle WA

James Bay Region, Quebec



Bluegrass Community Health Center, KY

Risk assessment

Oral health evaluation

Health promotion & preventative care

Collaboration

Barriers

Staff competency & training

Low political priority in the system

Funding

Colocation of dental services

Electronic health record interoperability

Visit duration

Facilitators

Financial support

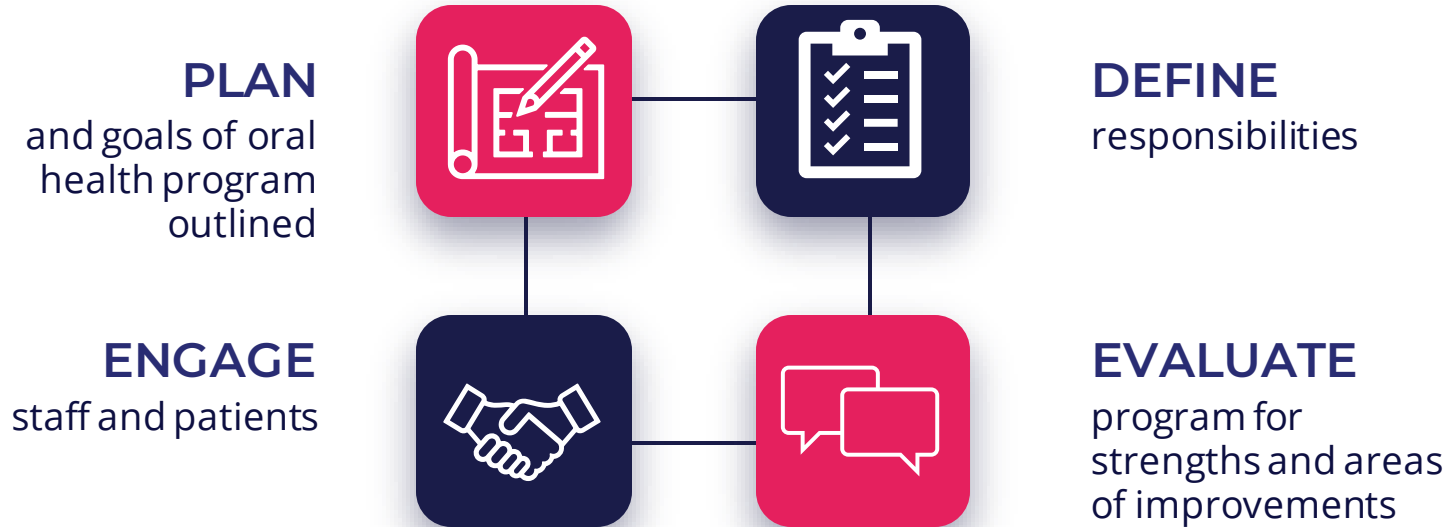
Interprofessional collaborative practice

perceived responsibility & role identification

case management

incremental approach

Considerations for Development and Implementation



Conclusion

- **Oral health contributes to overall health**
- **Limited access to oral care**
- **Integration supports quality patient care**
- **Interprofessional collaboration**

Thanks for listening!

Questions?

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