



Working Group „Ageing Population“

Recommendations

Demography shows that the proportion of elderly people is increasing.

- Oral health is an integral part of general health

The most important challenge is maintaining oral health and providing care.

The code of ethics should specify that treating ageing population is every dentist's concern.

The recommendation may require considerable additional resource if they are to be enacted across all healthcare systems.

- Education in geriatric dentistry is essential

Geriatric dentistry should be incorporated into undergraduate (basic education) and postgraduate dental curricula.

- The dentist needs to adjust from a “treat everything” philosophy to treating and restoring what is necessary for patients to function comfortably.

Prevention before intervention

- An individual oral health plan should be developed.

Twice daily oral health care must be provided to all long-term care residents who are unable to manage their own care.

The staff in a long term care facilities should be educated on the importance of thorough daily oral care for residents, trained and equipped to provide that care.

It is necessary to include a dental check-up into the schedule of general medical examinations of the residents performed at least once a year with follow-up procedure.

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