

Universal Provision of Oral Health Care

Universal optimal oral health must be paired
with right resources for safe care

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Oral health matters: example of periodontitis

- Periodontitis: infection in tissues and bones that support teeth
- 15-20 % of middle aged adults (35-44 years) have severe periodontal disease worldwide
- Oral-systemic health link example: Diabetes - Periodontitis

Oral health matters: example of periodontitis

Average annual reduction in medical visits for patients receiving periodontal treatment:

- Hospital Admissions = 67%
- Emergency Room Visits = 54%

The medical costs was 28% lower among patients receiving continuous periodontal treatment when compared to that of the control group.

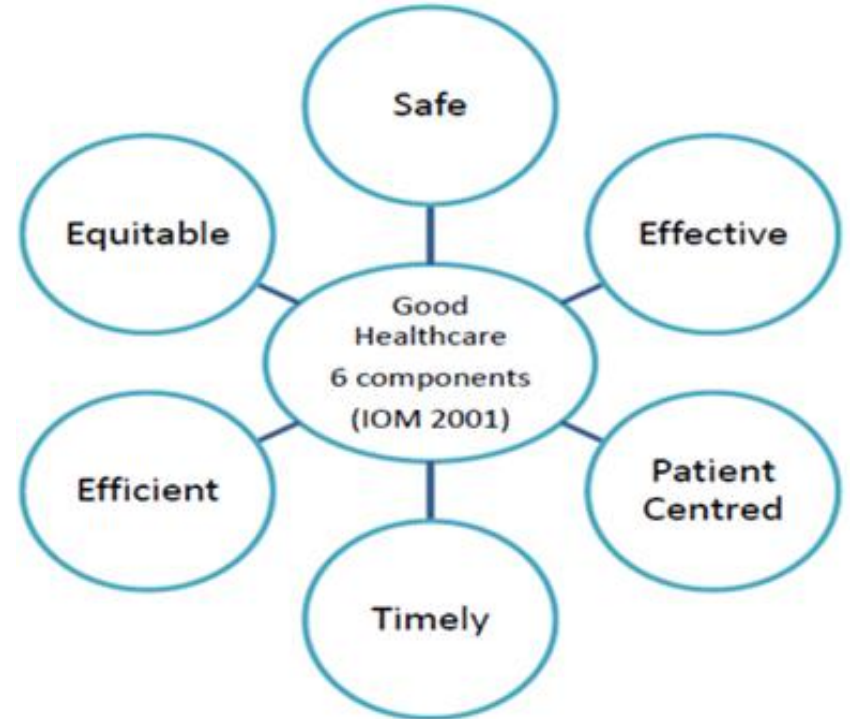
(\$2,688 per patient per year vs. \$3,708 per patient per year)

Do no harm, Do good

To achieve optimal oral health, oral health care provision must be assured for its quality and safety.

Six Aims of Quality Health Care

(U.S. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, 2001)



Safe Dentistry:

Infection prevention and control in dental settings

Breakdown of infection prevention and control: Rare, but real

- Failure to appropriate sterilization of dental handpieces

- Failure to monitor autoclaves

- Unsafe injection practices

- Or deeper cause - lack of infrastructure to support safe dentistry

CDC Recommendations

Evidence-based recommendations for infection control in dental settings
(Centers for Disease Control & Prevention)

[Bloodborne Pathogens & Aerosols](#)

[Bone Allografts](#)

[Cleaning & Disinfecting Environmental Surfaces](#)

[Contact Dermatitis & Latex Allergy](#)

[Dental Handpieces](#)

[Dental Unit Water Quality](#)

[Education and Training](#)

[Extracted Teeth](#)

[Hand Hygiene](#)

[Occupational Exposure to Blood](#)

[Oral Surgical Procedures](#)

[Personal Protective Equipment](#)

[Respiratory Hygiene/Cough Etiquette](#)

[Safe Injection Practices](#)

[Saliva Ejector & Backflow](#)

[Service Animals in Dental Health Care](#)

[Settings](#)

[Single-Use \(Disposable\) Devices](#)

[Sterilization](#)

[Use & Handling of Toothbrushes](#)

Current status: Infection control in various global dental settings.

Knowledge resource - available (CDC and other guideline)

Practical resource?

Lack of training opportunities in practical perspective

Unavailability, unaffordability or resources and shortage of equipment/supplies.

Question: how do we implement safe dentistry?

For professionals/staff in the field:

Know where to find resources - Standard Precautions (CDC guideline)

Provide training for both clinical and administrative staff based on guideline

Designate a key person to be accountable for safe practice based on guideline
+ Monitoring/Evaluation

Set infection prevention as the top priority

Real question: how do we implement safe dentistry?

For public health professionals and policymakers:

Create a system and platform that enable people in the field to

Know where to find resources - Standard Precautions (CDC guideline)

Provide training for both clinical and administrative staff based on guideline

Designate a key person to be accountable for safe practice based on guideline
+ Monitoring/Evaluation

Set infection prevention as the top priority

Cost for safe dentistry example: Extraction

Need: Disposable clean needle (\$0.13), Lidocaine (\$0.77/carpule), Clean gauze (for 5, \$0.10), Disinfectant wipes, Syringe, Forceps, Safe needle recapping device, Clean water, Autoclave machine and sleeves + Labor for healthcare professionals.

Just for needle, lidocaine, and clean gauze = \$1

Let say everything else including professional fee = \$1

TOTAL \$2

10.7% of the world's population lived on less than US\$ 1.90 a day

In Tanzania, extractions = 4 x daily resources for consumption (DRC) for adult
restorations = 9 x DRC

Global Call for Safe Dentistry

Safe dentistry should be **available** and **affordable**.

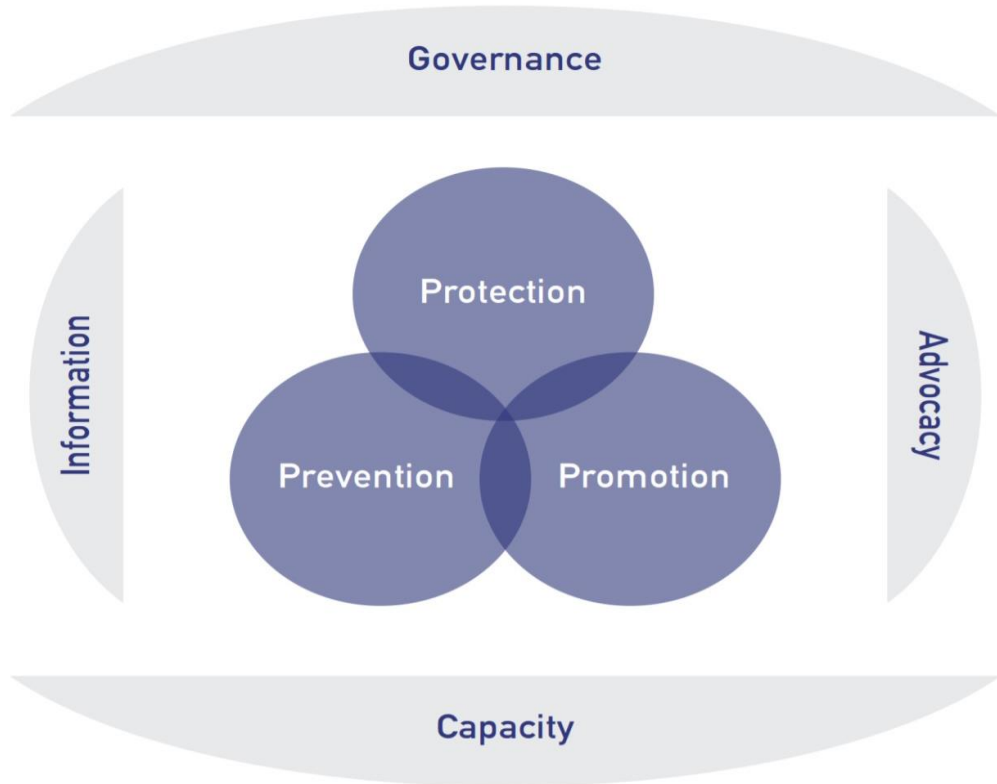
Technical assistance: “Practical” training for clinical and non-clinical staff

Monitoring & Evaluation: Public health policy and regulation

Call for every public health association

→ Organize efforts to advocate for
no tax or subsidies for dental supplies and equipment
for infection control and prevention

Aligning with Global Charter



**+ Universal Provision of
Safe Dental Care**