

## **Pertinent Dental Information**

Advocates should have facts at their command. The following are selected articles which will help you in this regard. It is by no means an exhaustive list. More articles are available through Special Care Dentistry and can also be researched through Pub-Med at [www.pubmed.gov](http://www.pubmed.gov). Look for other suggestions in the "Other Resources" section of this "tool kit".

### **I. Abstracts**

#### **A. Dental neglect: definition and prevention in the Louisiana Developmental Centers for patients with MRDD**

By Charlotte M. Connick RDH, MS  
Robert E. Barsley, DDS, JD  
*Special Care in Dentistry, VOLUME 19 NO 3 1999*

This paper defines dental neglect and examines the consequences to persons who are MRDD when appropriate restraints and preventive dental home care are not used. When dental services and appropriate use of restraints are used for persons who are severely and profoundly mentally retarded and developmentally disabled (MRDD), oral health is enhanced and dental neglect is controlled or even reduced.

#### **B. Children With Mental Retardation/Developmental Disabilities: Do Physicians Ever Consider Needed dental care?**

By H. Barry Waldman DDS/PhD  
Steven P. Perlman DDS  
Mark Swerdloff DDS  
*MENTAL RETARDATION VOLUME 39, NO 1, PP 53-56 FEBRUARY 2001*

In this paper, the authors examine both the necessity for & availability of needed dental care for "mainstreamed" children with mental retardation. The needs of these patients are contrasted with those of the general population. Factors influencing early dental care are discussed. The authors discuss the need for better training for physicians in pediatric residencies.

**C. Dental Care Considerations for Disabled Adults**

By Doris J. Stiefel, DDS, MS  
Special Care Dentistry VOLUME 22, NO 3 2002

In this article, the author looks at adults with disabilities as a part of the population with extensive oral health needs but limited access to dental services. She discusses the principal barriers to care; inadequacy of public and private dental insurance, a lack of dental professionals qualified and available to meet the need, and a general lack of awareness of the importance of oral health to total health. To address the urgent oral health problems of this growing segment of the community requires a collaborative effort by the various health disciplines, social service agencies, makers of public policy, and the private sector. This is an excellent overview of the basic issues involved in dental care for persons with disabilities.

**D. Access to Oral Health Care for Florida's Citizens with Developmental Disabilities**

By Paul Burtner DMD  
Frank Courts DDS/PhD  
John Tabak DDS  
Robert A Uchin DDS

Prepared by: University of Florida College of Dentistry &  
Nova Southeastern School of Dental Medicine  
A Publication of the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council 2002

A well written & thorough treatment of the issues involved in providing dental care to patients with disabilities in the state of Florida. Except for the specific demographics, the issues discussed herein could just as easily apply to any state in the United States. The authors discuss the need for dental care in the disabled population, the various barriers to care, as well as potential solutions and recommendations.

## II. Full Articles

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Robert E. Barsley, DDS, JD

SCD Special Care in Dentistry, Vol 19 No 3 1999

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