

Making Health Equity A Part of Your Dental Practice



Support Cultural Understanding and Diversity

- Take an **Unconscious Bias Assessment** with your staff*
- Make sure your practice's informational materials and forms are **health literate**- easy to understand and available in the language(s) most commonly spoken in your community*
- Take part in programs to diversify the dental workforce- **pipeline programs, mentoring** students from under-represented minorities and rural areas
- Promote dental careers-dentistry, hygiene and dental assisting at your child's **School Career Day**

Support Data Collection

- Volunteer to take part in **Oral Health Surveys** being conducted by Public Health Programs in your community-Head Start, 3rd Grade or Older Adult

Reinforce the role of Oral Health in Overall Health

- Work with **community organizations** like March of Dimes, Boys and Girls Clubs, Scouts, PTA, local community health centers, etc. to promote the **importance of oral health** and bring an oral health perspective
- Talk to your patients about the **role of HPV in Oral Cancer** and promote HPV **vaccinations**
- Talk to your patients about **tobacco cessation**-cigarettes, smokeless, or vaping

Disease Prevention Education

- Promote **Age 1 Dental Visits** and fluoride varnish use for babies*
- Promote the use of **sealants** on permanent molars*
- Talk to your patients about drinking **tap water with fluoride**, using fluoride toothpaste and mouth rinses at every office visit*
- Promote brushing, flossing, and community water fluoridation at your child's **Back-to-School** events or Health class

ADVOCATE in your community and state for better health care access

- Work with the ADA to promote adequate dental Medicaid coverage for ALL Adults- especially for disabled persons, pregnant women and veterans

*For more information and resources on these topics, go to [ADA.org/HealthEquity](https://www.ada.org/HealthEquity)