

# Florida Dental Association Presents

Access to Oral Health Care for  
Vulnerable Elderly  
HRSA Workforce Workgroup  
June 26, 2009



Florida Dental Association, 2008

# PART I

Bob Macdonald

# Surgeon General Statement



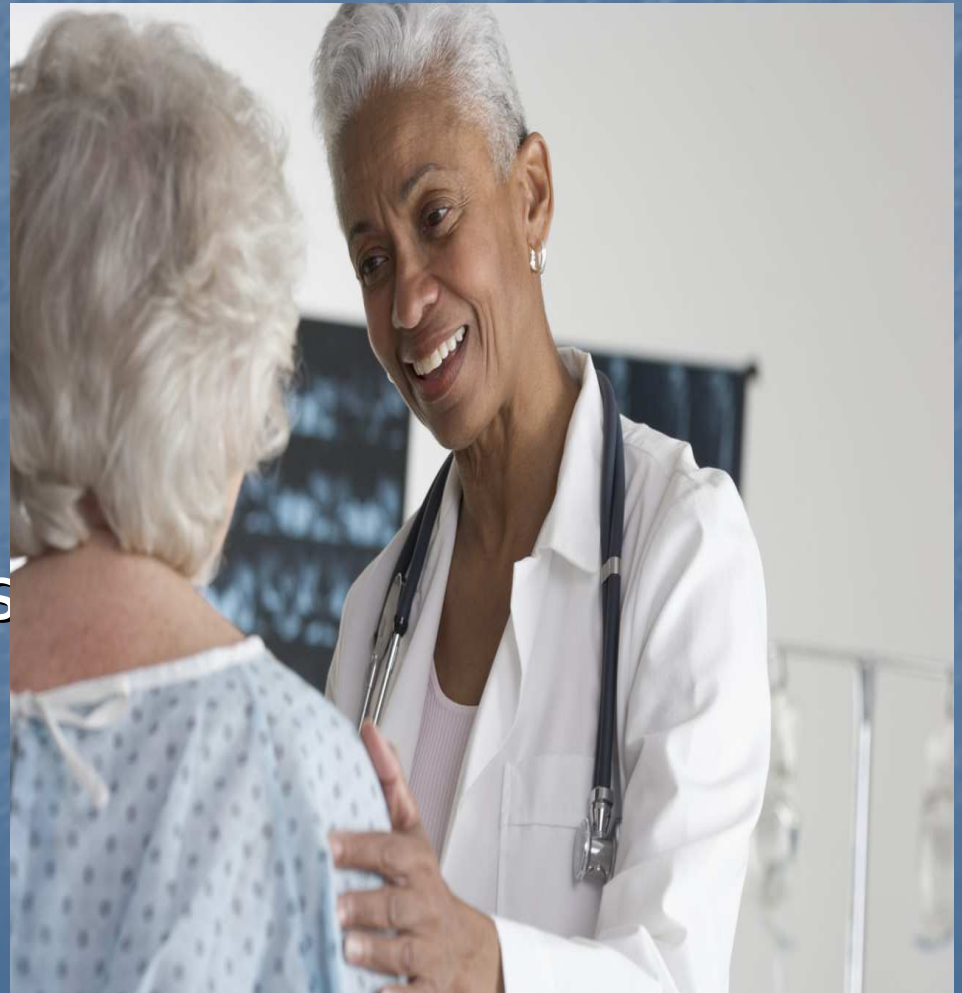
- “You are not healthy without good oral health,” C. Everett Koop, 1993

# Department of Elder Affairs Oral Health Objectives

- Promote the development of a comprehensive oral health program to reduce dental diseases, including dental caries, periodontal diseases and oral cancer; and to reduce associated risks of diseases that are showing interrelatedness to periodontitis.
- Increase access to dental care for low-income adults with special needs.

# Vulnerable Elderly

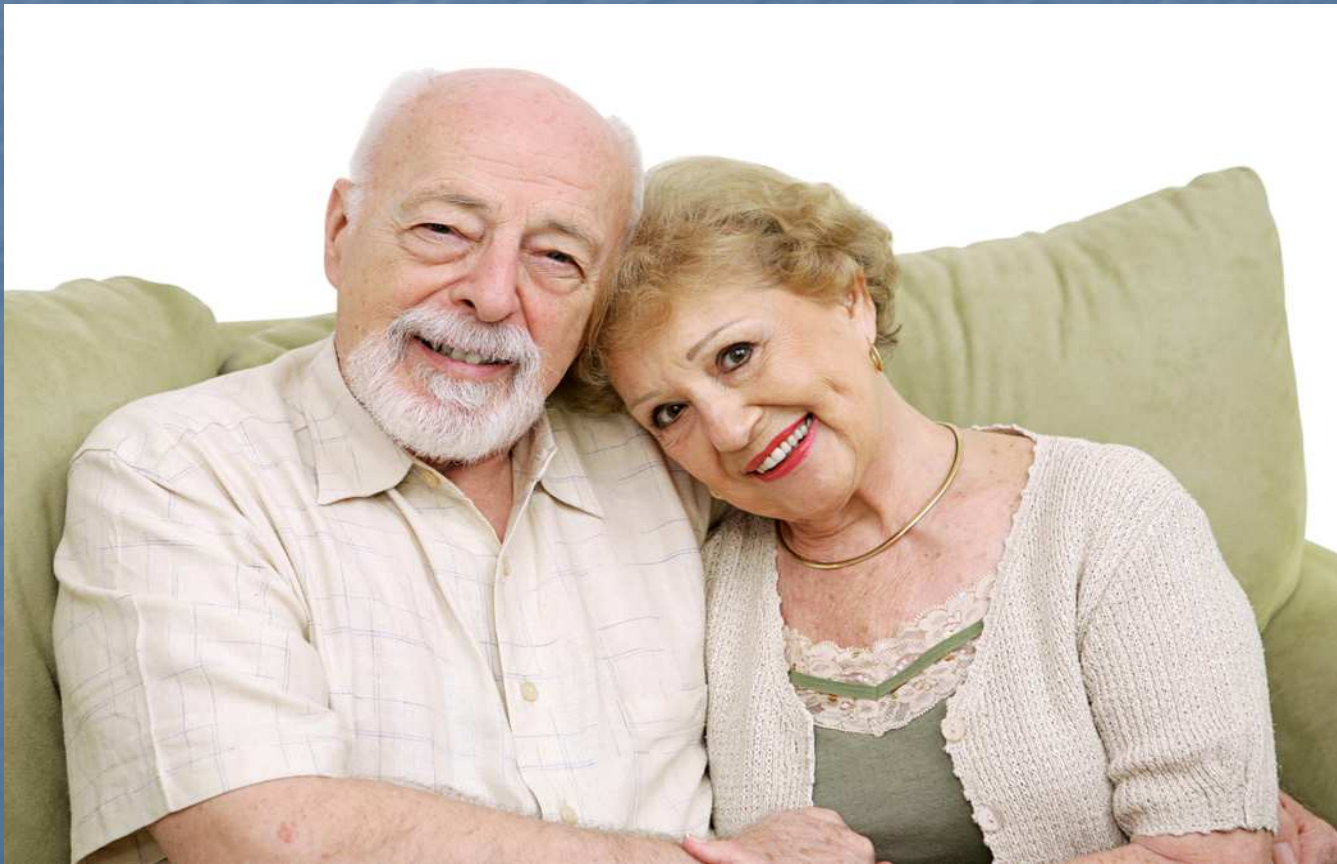
- Over age 65
- Limited financial resources
- Complex health status and/or medically compromised
- Limited mobility



# Target Population

- Vulnerable Elderly who are:
  - **Semi-dependent and other older adults in the following environments:**
    - Living independently
    - Needing partial or full caregiver assistance
    - In assisted living
    - Adult day care
    - Short term rehab
    - Long-term care

# Trends in Elder Care



# Elder Care: Statistics

- Life expectancy rates increased from 70 – 76 years old between 1960-2004
- By 2050, there will be over 90 million persons 65 years and older (20.7% of population) of which 20 million will be 85 and older
- Between 2000 and 2050 it is expected that the over 65 population will consist of white elders 61%; Afro-Americans 12% and Hispanic 18%

*Source: Federal Interagency Forum on Aging Related Statistics, 2006*

# Elder Care Population

- Florida has considerably more elderly persons (65 years and older) than the national average; Florida has 17.6% of its population over age 65 compared to 12.4% nationally

# Facts About Elder Care

- In 2004, only half of adults over 65 had reported seeing a dentist at least once that year – white elderly were 58.6%, Hispanic 42.5% and Afro-American 33.6%
- In 2002, 27.9% of over 65 population were edentulous -- of this number 45.9% were below Federal poverty level compared to 27.3% who were not in this category

# Summary of Elder Care Needs

- The elderly population is growing and these individuals have more teeth and more oral health problems that makes treatment increasingly difficult and complex.

# Nursing Home Care



# Nursing Home Resident Profile

- In 2000, 35 million people in U.S. over 65 years old about 12.5% of population of which 4.5% (1.75M) were residents of nursing homes
- By 2030, number of residents in nursing homes to increase to 3.4 million

# Nursing Home Findings

- Several studies have produced the following conclusions about oral health care in nursing homes:
  - Poor oral hygiene care
  - High rates of oral health needs
  - Low rates of dental care utilization

# LTC Reality Check: Facilities & Funding

## Nursing homes

- 15,728 Facilities
- 67.1% For-profit
- 26.5 % Non-profit
- 5.8% Government

## Residents Payment Source

- Medicare 14%
- Medicaid 64%
- Other 22%

# LTC Reality Check: Workforce

## Workers/Average Facility

- Total Direct Staff - 64 %
  - 6 % RNs
  - 15 % LPNs
  - 43 % Aides

# Omnibus Reconciliation Act (OBRA) of 1987

- Requires that each resident receive a comprehensive oral health assessment within 14 days of admission and annually thereafter, as well as a comprehensive oral health plan.
- Oral hygiene are to be made available to residents unable to carry out their activities of daily living (ADLs).

# Federal Regulations – Long Term Care Facilities

- Provide, if a resident is unable to carry out activities of daily living, the necessary services to maintain good nutrition, grooming, and personal and oral hygiene. [42CFR, Chapter 483.20]
- Aid residents to obtain routine and 24 hour emergency dental care by assisting with appointments and transportation {per private insurance or Medicaid coverage}. [42CFR, Chapter 483.55]

# Quality Indicator Index Survey (QIS)

- Survey of residents, caregivers, staff to determine levels of care against national standards.
- Oral health included on survey.
- National implementation by 2010.
- Deficiencies can lead to fines by CMS.

# LTC Dental Service Delivery

- Florida Licensed Dentist:
  - Contract service to facility
  - Patient of record
- Dental Student (Extramural Program):
  - University of Florida College of Dentistry
  - Nova-Southeastern College of Dental Medicine
- Florida Registered Dental Hygienist:
  - Contract service company employee
  - Patient of record (dentist prescription)
  - General supervision tasks
- Facility staff: (CNA, LPN, RN)

# FDA Nursing Home Survey

- Dentists under contract in last three years: 47.2%
- Ability to recruit dentists for facility:
  - Good 15.4%
  - Fair 12.8%
  - Poor 69.2%
- Percentage of residents who visit dentist office about once a year: 5%

# Dental Care in Nursing Homes

- Less than 20% of licensed dentists provide dental care in nursing homes because of:
  - Pressure of private practice
  - Concerns about inadequate training (no specialty in geriatric dentistry)
  - Small demand for services
  - Inadequate conditions

# Use of Non-dental Professionals in Nursing Homes

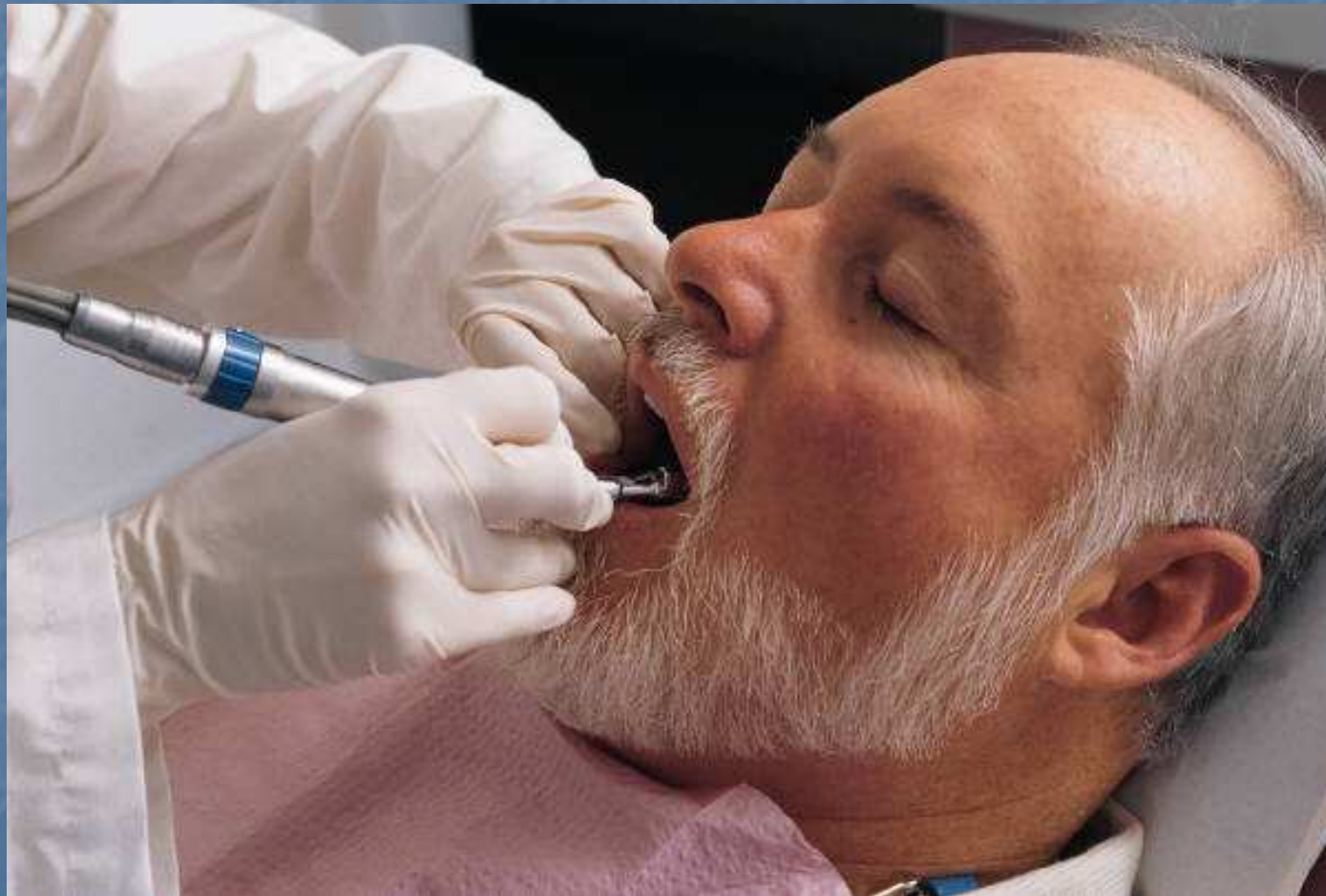
- RNs/LPNs/CNAs outlook on the provision of oral health care:
  - Burdensome
  - Unrewarding
  - Problematic
  - Trivial

*Source: Geriatric Nursing, 2006*

# PART II

Dr. Nolan Allen

# Proper Oral Health Care



# Elderly Dental Problems



- Caries/Tooth Decay
- Periodontal Disease
- Oral Cancer
- TMJ

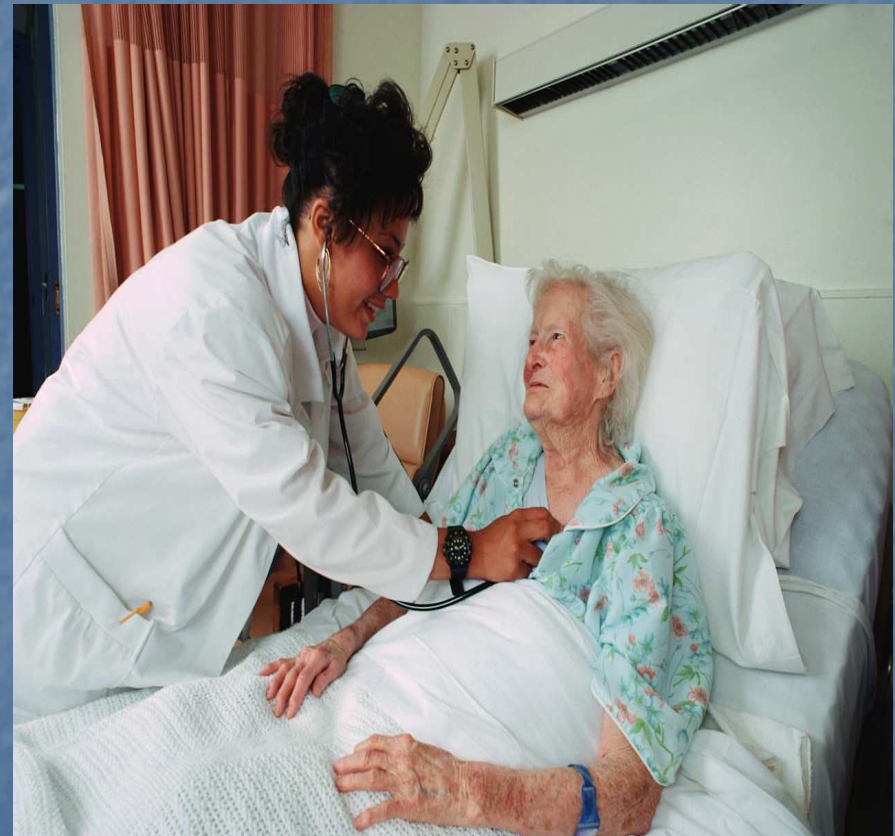
# Causes of Tooth Problems for Elderly



- •Inability to brush or floss
- •Tobacco use
- •Poor nutrition
- •Some medical diseases
- •Dry mouth
- •Previous history of cavities
- •Not visiting the dentist

# Key to Healthier Life

- Key Points:
  - Keep natural teeth or replace missing teeth so that the person can eat right to maintain proper nutrition.
  - Dental disease can lead to serious medical problems like heart disease, stroke and diabetes.



# Access to Oral Health Care

- Vulnerable Elderly Concerns:
  - Physical and cognitive abilities and limitations
  - Financial resources
  - Reimbursement issues (FFS, private insurance, Medicaid, Medicare)
  - Availability of receiving basic dental care
  - Attitude and practices of individual and dental professional

# Elder Care Research Findings

- There is a need to develop a program to educate all cohorts including residents, family and health professionals on the importance of good dental and oral health for the elderly.

*[TRECS Institute, Report to AHCA, January 20, 2005]*

# Education of Target Caregivers



- Train nursing home, assisted living center, community senior organization staffs, residents and caregivers about basic oral health care and prevention programs for their clients and family members.

# Oral Health Prevention and Education Program Objectives

- Select five pilot areas to conduct program: Safety Harbor, Ft. Lauderdale, Panama City, Jacksonville, Orlando [WPB and Ft. Myers]
- Identify nursing homes, assisted living centers, senior organizations in pilot areas.
- Invite staffs/caregivers to FDA presentation.
- Provide program materials and follow-up training sessions in participating facilities.
- Evaluate program effectiveness.

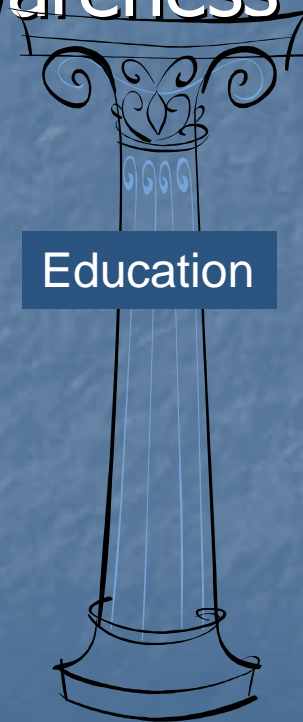
# Dental Profession: Elderly Dental Care Programs

- Florida Dental Association/Florida Dental Health Foundation/Renaissance Dental
  - Oral Health Education and Prevention Program
- Oral Health Florida
  - State Oral Health Improvement Plan (SOHIP)
- ADA/GlaxoSmithKline
  - *Oral Longevity* CD "A Healthy Mouth for Life"
- Ohio Dental Association/ADA Foundation/GlaxoSmithKline
  - *Smiles for Seniors* CD/PowerPoint

# Education Strategy # 2

- Develop educational materials to increase oral health and Quality of Life awareness in elders and families

**Oral** **Longevity**<sup>TM</sup>



# Education Strategy # 2: AARP Campaign

## Print Ad

- *AARP The Magazine*: OralLongevity ad in September-October 2008 issue
- Circulation of **8+ million** Seniors, plus pass-along

You're  
living longer.  
So should  
your teeth.

Take control of your oral health.  
Consult your dentist.

OralLongevity

ADA American Dental Association  
America's leading authority for oral health

ADA Foundation

GlaxoSmithKline

Visit [www.orallongevity.ada.org](http://www.orallongevity.ada.org) or [www.gsk-orallongevity.com](http://www.gsk-orallongevity.com)

# FDA Elder Care Plan of Action

- Phase I: Present to Senior Community Based Organizations and LTC staffs Oral Health Education and Prevention Program for Vulnerable Elderly [November 2008 – Present]
- Phase II: Provide In-Service Training for LTC staff [CNAs, LPNs, RNs]

# FDA Elder Care Plan of Action (Cont.)

- Phase III: Assist LTC Facilities to Obtain On-Site Dental Services from Private or Contracted Licensed Dentists or Dental School Students Using Mobile and Portable Equipment
- Phase IV: Establish Geriatric Dental Program Tract at Florida Dental Schools

# Future Plan for Elder Care

- Create an “Apple Tree” Model for the State of Florida with Collaborative Agreements Between Dentists and Dental Hygienists