

**Proposed revised term of reference (TOR)**

1. To assist WHO ORH providing country examples on translation of evidence for oral health care, health promotion & integrated oral disease prevention
2. To assist WHO ORH in providing update epidemiological information on children and adults to be included in the WHO Global Oral Health Data Bank
3. To assist WHO ORH in gaining experience from oral disease prevention programmes for people affected by oral cancer
4. To assist WHO ORH in offering training programmes for preventive & community dentists, dental hygienists & paediatricians

# Proposed work plan

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## 1. Activity Title

Oral Health National Guidelines Programme

### Link to TOR

TOR 1

### Responsible person

Guglielmo Campus, Maria Grazia Cagetti, Silvio Abati, Laura Strohmenger

### Type of activity

Development and application of appropriate oral health care

### Description of the activity and how it is implemented

Strengthening of oral health systems towards prevention and health promotion was strongly emphasized by WHA60.17 concerning the action plan for global oral health. Country experiences from health authorities setting directives for oral health care are most important to initiate the reorientation process in several countries. The Italian Ministry of Health has established a group "Tavolo tecnico sull'Odontoiatria in Italia" in order to acquire information and promote oral health in the Italian population. Recently, the group planned an Oral Health National Guidelines Programme. The National Guidelines on Oral Health were produced focusing on children (caries, gingivitis, malocclusion, trauma, and children under cancer control programme) and adults under cancer control programme. The ministry will commence the application of the National Oral Health Guidelines/Clinical Recommendations for preventive care of oral diseases among children and adults. The WHO CC Milan acted and acts continuously as the coordinator in the production and the application of this Guideline Programme. The WHO CC will assist the Ministry of Health in implementation of the programme and conduct a process evaluation. The results from such evaluation will be reported for the benefit of countries in Europe and for low and middle income countries now in process developing similar national guidelines for oral health care.

WHO policies, rules and procedures for guideline development will be practiced to ensure that they are consistent with internationally accepted best practices, including the appropriate use of evidence.

### Expected deliverables

Evidence based oral health recommendations targeted at dental and medical personnel for use in everyday clinical practice and to be used in planning oral health prevention programmes for selected population groups.

### Connected WHO task

OSERS 3.1 and 6.1

### Name (s) of funding source

Governmental funds, university funds

### Activity timeframe

2014-2017

**2a. Activity Title**

Epidemiological survey on oral health status in Italian population

**Link to TOR**

TOR2

**Responsible staff**

Maria Grazia Cagetti and Guglielmo Campus

**Type of activity**

Oral health epidemiological survey

**Description of the activity and how it is implemented**

In 2005, an epidemiological survey called ‘National Pathfinder among Children’s Oral Health in Italy’ was conducted by the WHO Collaborating Centre for Epidemiology and Community Dentistry, Milan, in collaboration with the Italian Society of Hygiene and Preventive Medicine

The aim of the survey was to evaluate the prevalence of dental caries and periodontal conditions in Italian population (12- and 35-44 years).

The new investigation will be carried out as a cross-sectional survey based on the methodology recommended by the WHO Oral Health Surveys Basic Methods 2013 5<sup>th</sup> edition. A multistage cluster sampling will be performed, considering the Italian sections according to the National Institute of Statistics classification as strata: North-Western, North-Eastern, Central, Southern and Insular Italy; in the second stage the counties of the sections will be chosen at cluster level with proportional random selection of participants. The record forms of the manual are used and WHO criteria are applied.

**Expected deliverables**

This survey aims to evaluate the oral health status in Italian population in order to plan future oral preventive programmes. The results are reported in scientific papers of peer-reviewed international dental journals.

Update of WHO database

**Connected WHO task**

OSERS 3.1 and 6.1

**Name of funding source**

University of Milan

**Activity timeframe**

Start in Spring 2014 - 2017

**2b****Activity Title**

Taste preference and dental caries in children. A multicentre study

**Link to TOR**  
TOR 3

**Responsible persons**

Guglielmo Campus, Peter Lingstrom, Silvana Sale, Maria Grazia Cagetti

**Type of activity**

Oral epidemiological survey

**Description of the activity and how it is implemented**

Dental caries prevalence among children is strongly affected by socio-behavioral factors. Health promotion and oral disease prevention programmes should consider these factors. The main objective of this survey is to investigate the different levels of dental caries experience and the relationship to dietary habits in four different geographical areas (Sweden, Saudi Arabia, Mexico and Italy). The study will ascertain the potential relationship between sweet taste preference and caries in schoolchildren (aged 13-15 years) and pregnant women. Data are collected based on the WHO Oral Health Surveys 2013 5<sup>th</sup> edition. The role of diet in prevention of dental caries is investigated. Moreover, a screening method for dental caries will be validated for relevance to public health.

**Expected deliverables**

Validation of a screening method  
Scientific paper in international dental journal

**Connected WHO task**

OSERS 3.1 and 6.1

**Activity timeframe**

Start in Spring 2014  
Finish in 2018

**Activity funding sources**

University of Goteborg, University of Milan/Sassari

3.

**Activity Title**

Oral health promotion and prevention of mouth diseases in a community of hopeless and disadvantaged oncologic patients

**Link to TOR**

TOR 2

**Responsible person**

Silvio Abati, Laura Strohmenger

**Description of the activity and how it is implemented**

The prevalence of mouth diseases in hopeless oncologic patients admitted to hospice care facilities is very high and dependent on general status. The main diseases are dental caries linked to xerostomia, periodontal and odontogenic infections and mucositis. These diseases complicate the rather critical systemic conditions and are a significant barrier to the enhancement of life quality. The objective of this activity will be to evaluate a oral preventive program me on a cohort of in-dwell patients with the goal to improve the oral and general welfare. The programme if successful will be implemented internationally trying to build up a network of researchers to put down a list of preventive recommendations about these patients.

**Expected deliverables**

Improvement of disabling oral conditions in hopeless oncologic cohort of patients, improvement of welfare at the end of life, and validating the preventive approach and methods.  
Scientific papers in international dental journals

**Connected WHO task**

OSERS 3.1 and 6.1

**Activity funding sources**

University of Milan, European Institute of Oncology Hospice

**Activity timeframe**

Start in June 2014 - Finish in 2016

**4a**

**Activity Title**

Postgraduate training course for dentists working in developing countries

**Responsible person**

Laura Strohmenger

**Type of activity**

Training and capacity building for developing countries

**Description of the activity and how it is implemented**

Problem-based learning courses in dental public health. It is a training course based on international concepts, and the programme introduces dental personnel from developing countries in the field of international cooperation and solidarity, public health systems and oral disease epidemiology. The training focuses on oral health systems research, capacity building or improving oral health systems in developing countries and how systems may match the need for dental care of the population. Participants are recruited from Asia, Middle East, North Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa. Certificates do not involve WHO.

**Expected deliverables**

Capacity building in public health care planning and administration of services in developing countries

After the course the trained dental health personnel will be able to teach to local health professionals.

**Connected WHO task**

OSERS 3.1 and 6.1

**Activity funding sources**

SMOM (L'Associazione Solidarietà Medico Odontoiatrica nel Mondo), which is Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) approved by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Activity timeframe**

One-year courses with start in Spring 2014 and planned every 4 years

4b

**Activity Title**

Postgraduate training course on oral health for dentists, hygienists and paediatricians and other medical personnel involved in oral health promotion.

**Link to TOR**

TOR 4

**Responsible person**

Guglielmo Campus

**Type of activity**

Capacity building in public health practice at national and international levels

**Description**

The International Summer School on Community and Preventive Dentistry topics is organized every year by the WHO CC for Epidemiology and Community Dentistry, University of Milan. The courses began 10 years ago and it is usually take place in Porto Conte (Sardinia). During the 5 days course, Italian and International professors will deal with principal aspects of oral disease prevention and oral health promotion and building of appropriate oral health systems. Emphasis is given to translation of research for community and preventive dentistry. The course is accessible to 50/70 Italian and international students. Certificates do not involve WHO.

**Expected deliverables**

To build up a group of dental professionals with capacity in community and preventive dentistry for work in National Health Systems.

**Activity funding sources**

University of Milan

**Activity timeframe**

Every year during summer  
2014-2018