

Oral Health for an Ageing Population Partnership

Results of a Survey on Oral Conditions in the Elderly



INTRODUCTION

This report shows the results of a survey on oral conditions in the elderly, conducted as part of the “Oral Health for an Ageing Population” (OHAP) partnership. OHAP is a joint initiative of FDI World Dental Federation (FDI) and GC International AG (GC). Launched in 2015, it aims to give an insight into the oral health related challenges posed by ageing populations.

SURVEY OVERVIEW

The survey was conducted by FDI between January and December 2016 and was addressed to National Dental Associations (NDAs). Each NDA was asked a number of questions on whether and how they collect data on elderly oral health as well as the model of elderly dental coverage in their country.

RESULTS

Among the 140 Regular Member NDAs contacted, 62 responded. This represents a 44% response rate, which is a high level of engagement when compared to previous NDA surveys conducted by FDI.

Table 1 summarizes the number of responses per region compared to the total number of NDAs in that region and the per cent response rate (Resp. rate).

Table 1 – NDA response rate per region

	NDAs that answered	Total NDAs in region	Response rate
Europe	30	59	51%
Asia Pacific & Middle East	15	35	43%
Africa	10	28	36%
Latin America	6	13	46%
North America	2	5	40%
TOTAL	63	140	44%

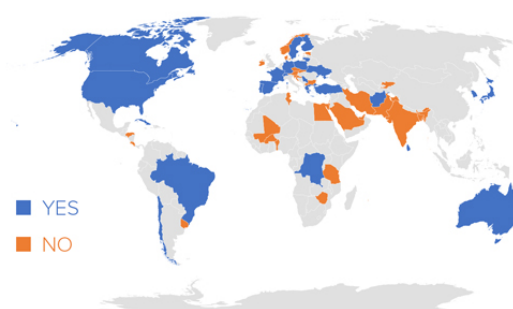
Responses to each question are described below and presented using graphics. From question 2 onwards, the results refer to number of answers from NDAs that have answered to the specific question. Middle East is included in Asia Pacific.

1. Does your country collect data on oral conditions of older adults?

63 NDAs responded to this question

Options	Percent	Number of NDAs
Yes	46 %	29
No	54 %	34

FIGURE Number of FDI National Dental Associations collecting data on ageing populations



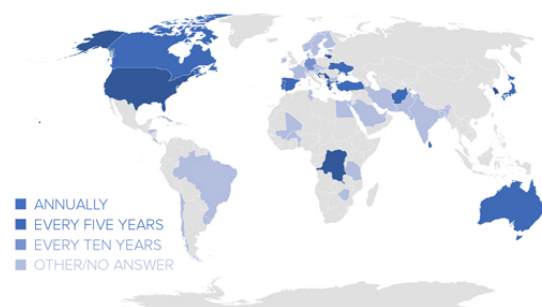


2. If yes, how often do you collect the data?

22 NDAs responded to this question

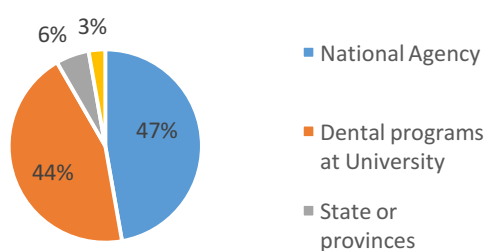
Options	Percent	Number of NDAs
Annually	30 %	7
Every five years	57 %	13
Every ten years	13 %	3

FIGURE Frequency in which FDI National Dental Associations collect data on ageing populations



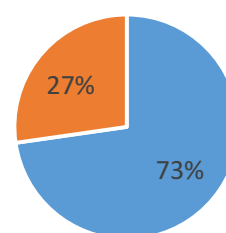
3. Who collects the data? (choose all that apply)

30 NDAs responded to this question



4. Is there an examiner or is it self-report?

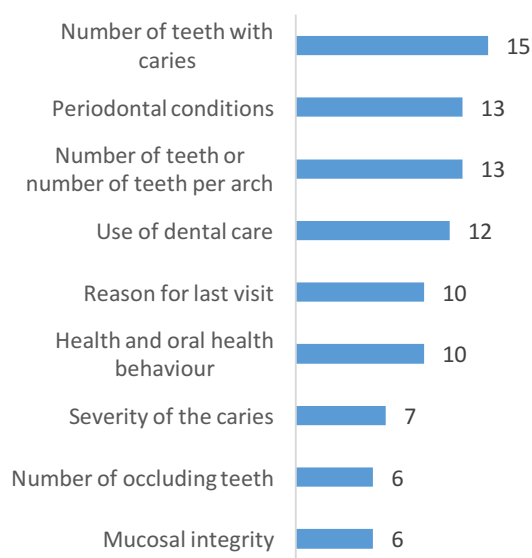
34 NDAs responded to this question



■ Examiner ■ Self-report

5. What data do you collect? (choose all that apply)

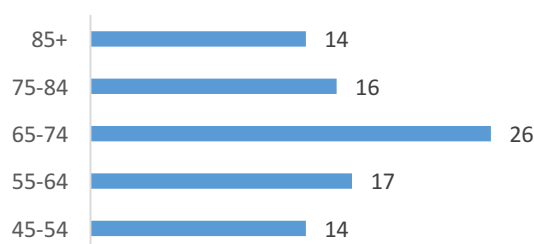
33 NDAs responded to this question





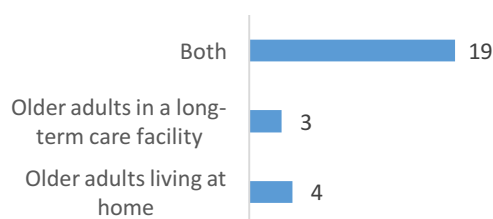
6. What Age groups do you include (*choose all that apply*)?

33 NDAs responded to this question



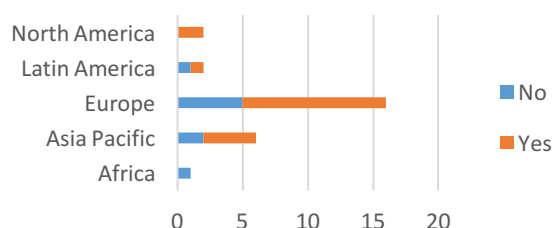
7. Do you include older adults in a long-term care facility, older adults living at home or both?

26 NDAs responded to this question



8. Is the data published?

27 NDAs responded to this question



If yes, where is the data published? Please describe

14 NDAs gave detail about where the data is published

Most common responses were:

- Ministry and national bodies
- Academic theses
- Academic journals

9. List other data elements collected

8 NDAs responded to this question

- The percentage of adults that need prosthodontist treatment.
- The frequency of non-diagnosed and non-treated diseases of oral mucosa in adults.
- The frequency of cases concerning oral cavity diseases requiring urgent intervention.
- Differences in the presence of caries and periodontal disease in different regions of the country.
- The percentage of adults with prosthodontic appliances (removable and fixed).
- The percentage of temporo-mandibular joint diseases.
- A description of the attitude of adults in the 35–44 and 65–74 year age groups regarding their attitude to oral health and behaviour.
- Evaluation and availability for and use of the healthcare system by adults.
- Evaluation of oral health and quality of life in old age.
- Evaluation of health behaviour in the 65–74 year age group.
- Level of dependency, associated general pathologies.
- Statistics on health on children and young adults, lost teeth per age group, gingival or periodontal cases, children population without malocclusions, morbidity and mortality rate due to oral cancer.
- Knowledge of nurses on oral health on ageing population in long-term care facility or adults living at home.
- Condition of prosthesis.

10. Do you conduct regular activities to promote oral health for ageing populations? Kindly describe.

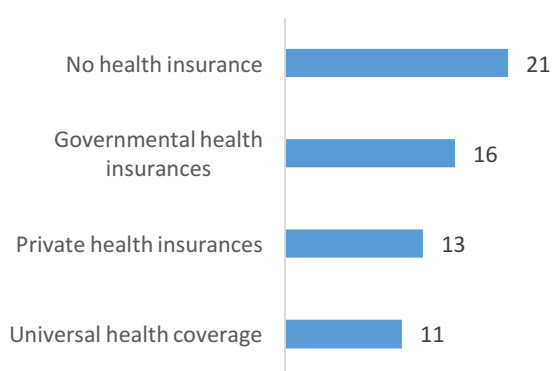
Among the 55 NDAs who responded to this question, half of them reported not carrying out



any specific activity targeting older populations. Among those that did, the most common activities included specific training and conferences as well as campaigns targeting affected populations.

11. Who pays for dental care of elderly in your country (choose all that apply)?

30 NDAs responded to this question



CONCLUSION

Based on the results of this survey, it is evident that less than half of the NDAs collect some data on elderly oral health. This figure is lower in Africa, where only one NDA reported collecting such data. Among NDAs that collect data, 80% do it every 5 years or less.

Data is mainly collected through National Agencies or University Dental Programmes, with the role of states and towns being minor – only 9% of answers cited them as a means of data collection.

According to the answers, data is mostly collected through the participation of an examiner. Most of it is disseminated, mainly through academic thesis and journals.

Regarding coverage of oral health costs, NDAs report different national health systems with modalities that combine universal coverage or government health insurances with models based on private insurance or no insurance.

DISCUSSION

The survey shows room for improvement regarding data collection and dissemination. Further data on elderly oral health could be collected if more self-reporting models were put into place, as less staff would be needed for that task. Furthermore, more and better data could be collected through institutions that are closer to the population, rather than the current situation in which most data comes from national agencies or universities.

On the other hand, a major part of the dissemination is done mainly through academic journals and thesis, which can prevent an important part of the public from accessing valuable information. Here, more openness with regards access to data on elderly oral health could enable stakeholders to have a better insight. Thus easing the process in tackling the current and future challenges posed by ageing populations in the context of oral health.



ANNEX – RESPONDENT NDAs

		Honduras	Colegio De Cirujanos Dentistas de Honduras
Afghanistan	Afghanistan Dentist Association	Hong Kong	Hong Kong Dental association
Australia	Australian Dental Association	India	Indian Dental Association
Austria	Austrian Dental Chamber	Iran	Iranian Dental Association
Bangladesh	Bangladesh Dental Society	Ireland	Irish Dental Association
Benin	Association des Chirugiens dentistes du Bénin	Israel	Israel Dental Association
Brasil	ABCD/APCD	Japan	Japan Dental Association
Bulgaria	Bulgarian Dental Association (BgDA)	Lithuania	Lithuanian Dental Chamber
Burkina Faso	L'association des chirurgiens dentistes du Burkina	Macedonia	Macedonian Dental Chamber
Canada	CDA	Macedonia	Macedonian Dental Society
Chile	Colegio de Cirujano Dentista de Chile	Mali	AOSMA Association Des Chirugiens Dentistes Du Mali
Costa Rica	Universidad Santa Paula	Mauritius	Mauritius Dental Association
Croatia	Croatian Dental Chamber	Norway	The Norwegian Dental Association
Croatia	Croatian Dental Society Cma	Pakistan	OPD - Organization For People's Development
Cuba	Sociedad Cubana de Estomatología	Pakistan	Pakistan Dental Association
Czech Republic	Czech Dental Chamber	Poland	Polish Dental Society
Denmark	Danish Dental Association	Portugal	Portuguese Dental Association
Egypt	Egyptian Dental Association	Republic Democratic of the Congo	ANCD (Association Nationale Des Chirugiens Dentistes)
Egypt	Egyptian Dental Syndicate	Republic of Korea	Korean Dental Association
Estonia	Estonian Dental Association	Saudi Arabia	Saudi Dental Society
Finland	Finnish Dental Association	Serbia	Dentistry Of Primary Health Care
France	UFSBD	Serbia	Serbian Dental Society
Germany	Bundeszahnärztekammer (German Federal Chamber of Dentists)	Seychelles	Dental Association of Seychelles
Greece	Hellenic Dental Association	Singapore	Singapore Dental Association
Greece	Stomatological Society of Greece	Slovakia	Slovak Chamber of Dentists
		Slovenia	Slovenian Dental Association
		Spain	Consejo General de Dentistas De España



Srilanka	Srilanka Dental Association	United Arab Emirates	Emirates Dental Association
Sweden	Swedish Dental Association	United States of America	American Dental Association
Switzerland	SSO	Uruguay	Asociación Odontológica Uruguaya
Tanzania	Tanzania Dental Association	Zimbabwe	ZiDA
The Kyrgyz Republic	Stomatological (Dental) Association of The Kyrgyz Republic		
Tunisia	STMDLP		
Turkey	Turkish Dental Association		
Ukraine	Ukrainian Dental Association		