

ACFF Oral Health Policy Labs – *How Can These Best Assist the CDOs and DPH Section Going Forward?*

Professor Nigel Pitts

Global Chair

Alliance for a Cavity Free Future

ECONOMIST
IMPACT

Time to put your money where your mouth is

Addressing inequalities in oral health



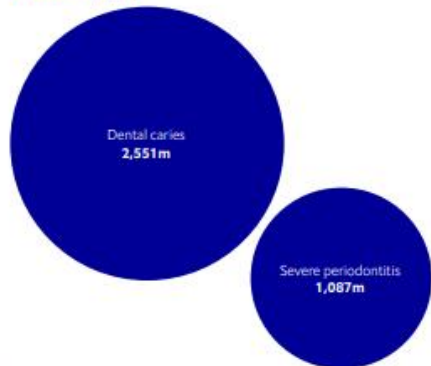
COMMISSIONED BY  **EFP** European Federation of Periodontology SUPPORTED BY **HALEON**

45% of the world's population is affected by oral diseases.

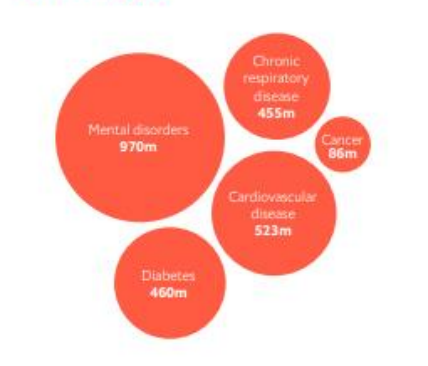
Surpassing the combined prevalence of 5 of the most common non-communicable diseases.¹

More years are lost to disability from oral diseases than any other medical condition.²

Prevalence of the 2 most common oral diseases
Combined: **3,639m**



Prevalence of 5 of the most common NCDs
Combined: **2,494m**



Source: Global Burden of Disease, 2019

What are dental caries and periodontal disease?

Dental caries (tooth decay) is a bacterially mediated and sugar modulated NCD that causes damage to the structure of teeth. Periodontal disease (gum disease) the most common forms being gingivitis and periodontitis, is a destructive inflammatory disease of the tissues that hold teeth in place.

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Dental Caries: a key Problem

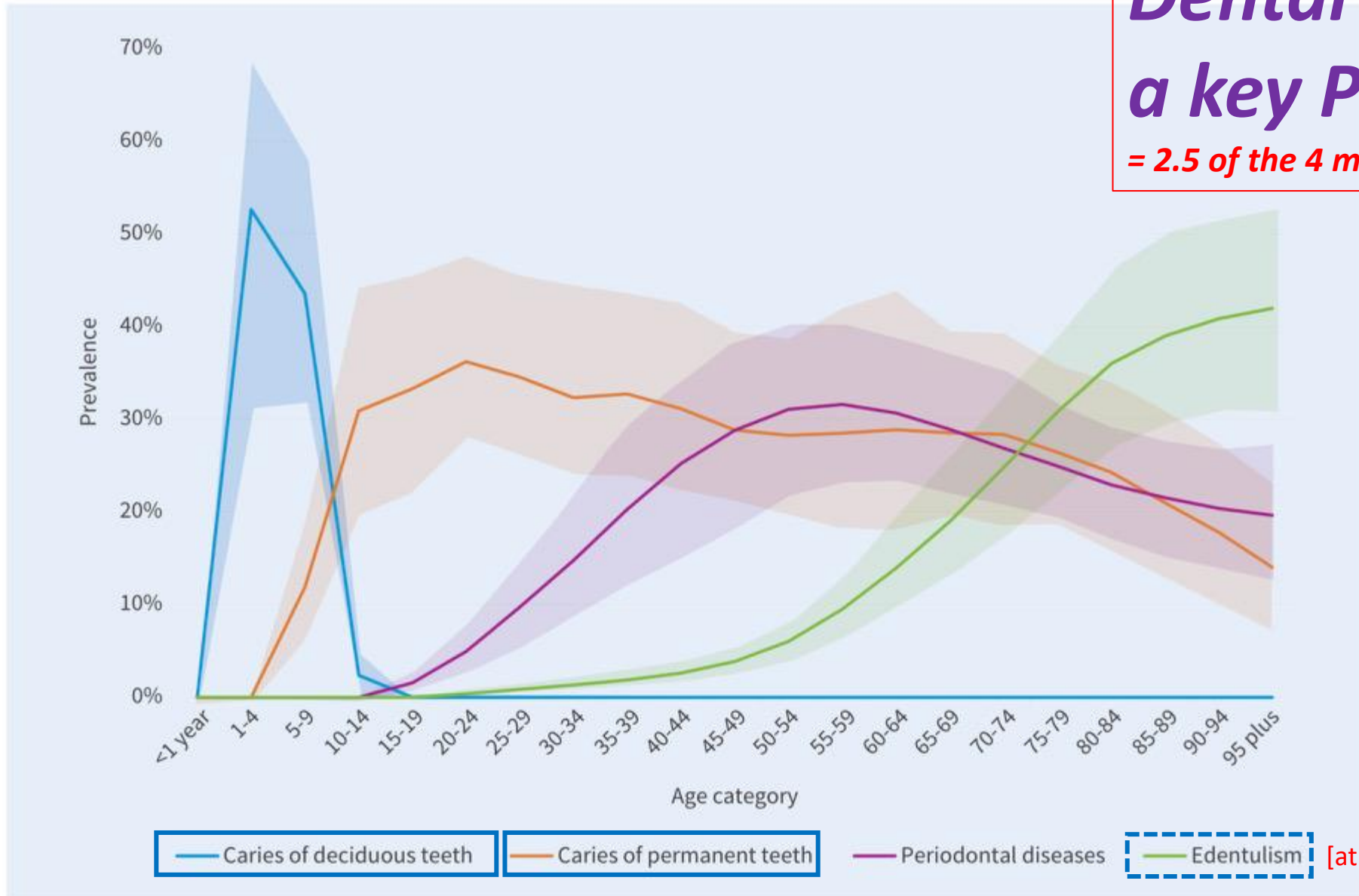


By itself, prevalence of caries is more than that of the other 5 most common NCDs combined

Launched in Brussels
February 2024

Fig. 10 Prevalence rates of four major oral diseases over the life course

***Dental Caries:
a key Problem***
= 2.5 of the 4 major Oral Diseases



Note. Data are from GBD 2019 (4).

WHO Global oral health report: Figure 10, 2023

The ACFF: **Who we are**

ACFF Ultimate Stretch Goal

Every child should stay Cavity-Free during their lifetime

Other goals focus on health education, collaborating with multiple stakeholders, reduction in health inequalities and adoption of locally appropriate caries prevention and management systems.

The ACFF is a global not-for-profit organisation

Launched in September 2010

The ACFF seeks to promote integrated clinical and public health action to confront the disease burden of caries, fight caries initiation and progression, and, along with a global community of supporters, progress towards a Cavity-Free Future for all age groups.

The ACFF was established by an international group who share a fervent belief in joining together across professional, geographic, and stakeholder lines, to create a unified global movement committed to combating caries and improving health in communities around the world.

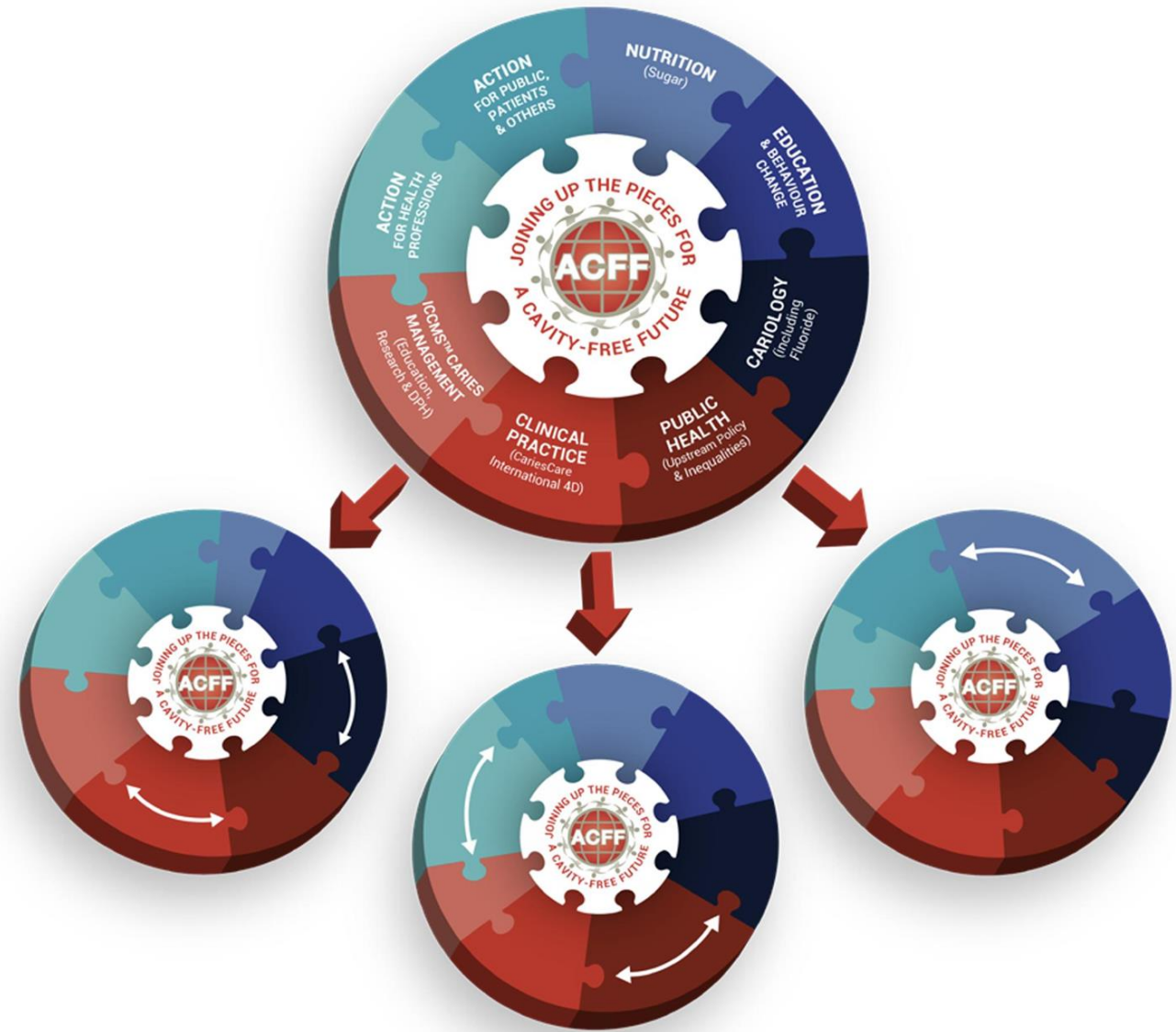
ACFF currently has 29 Chapters around the world, driving local action in over 50 countries.

'Glocal' adaptation of the ACFF Caries Puzzle

We aim to implement **Global Evidence locally**

- Nutrition
- Education & Behaviour Change
- Cariology
- Public Health
- Clinical Practice
- ICCMS™ Caries Management
- ACTION for Health Professionals
- ACTION for public, patients and others

The 29 ACFF Chapters (and Regional Groupings of them) can ensure that the emphasis given to each puzzle piece is locally appropriate.



ACFF Oral Health Policy Labs - How can these best assist the FDI CDO/DPH Section going forward?



Caries NOW for a Cavity-Free Fu



ACFF Oral Health Policy Labs - *What Are They?*

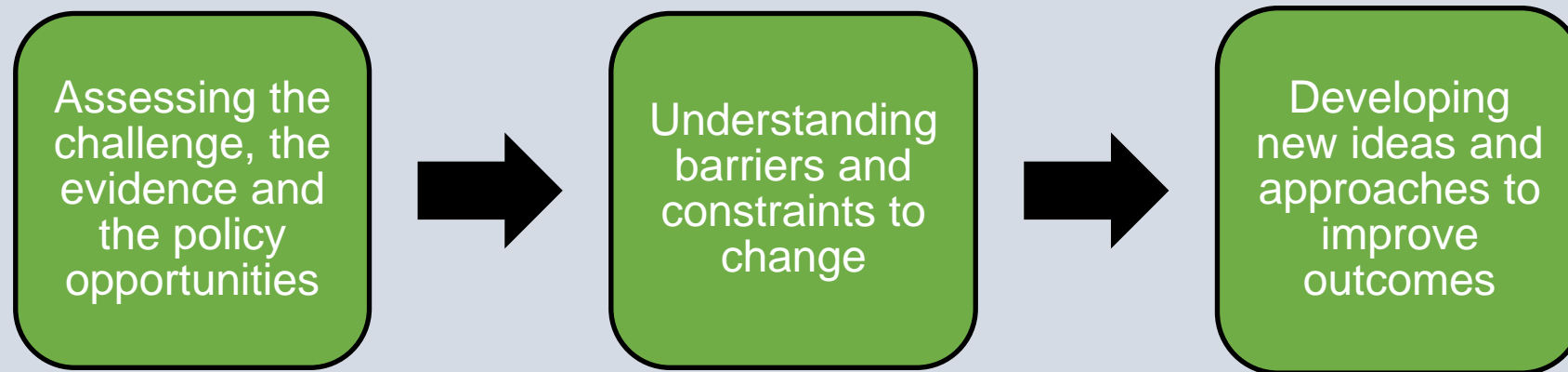
- Purpose and size
- Methodology – *the Question is Key*
- The story so far...

ACFF Oral Health Policy Labs - *Development*

- Oral Health Policy Lab **Network**
- Global Collaboratory for Caries Management (**GCCM**)
- **Country-level** Policy Labs
- ***How can these best assist the FDI CDO/DPH Section >?***
 - Enhancing the Network and sharing expertise and findings
 - ? Focus on Country-level Labs
 - ? Choose PL Questions aligned to the WHO Global Oral Health Action Plan

What is a Policy Lab?

- A Policy Lab is a **collaborative** workshop bringing together diverse stakeholders, informed by evidence, to make a breakthrough on a particular challenge
- It is fast-paced and interactive to make the most of experience within the group
- A mix of plenary and group work discussions will build the thinking around three principal elements:



PL Methodology – *Size and the PL Question are Key*



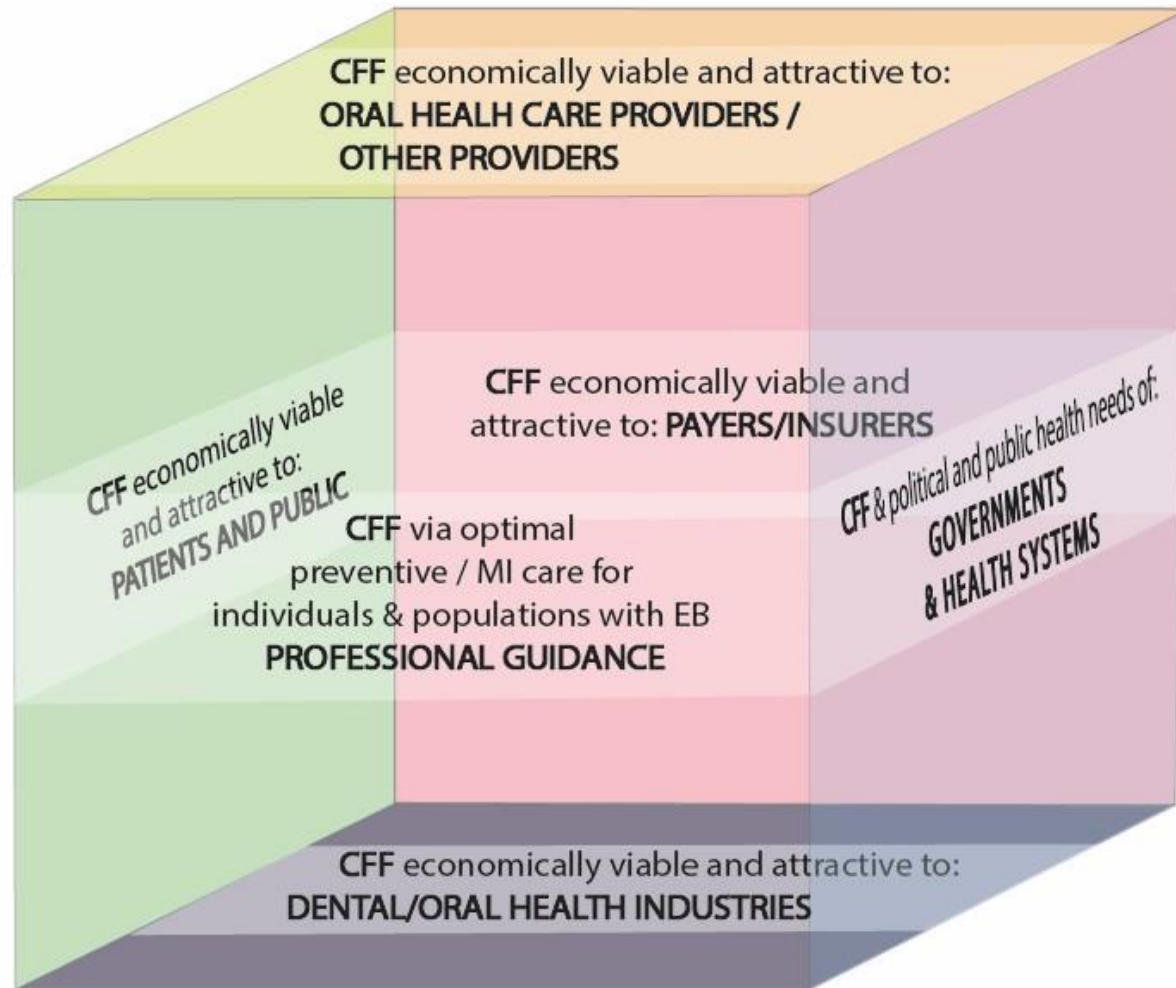
Example: *Canada Oral Health Policy Lab November 2022*

Attendees = 20

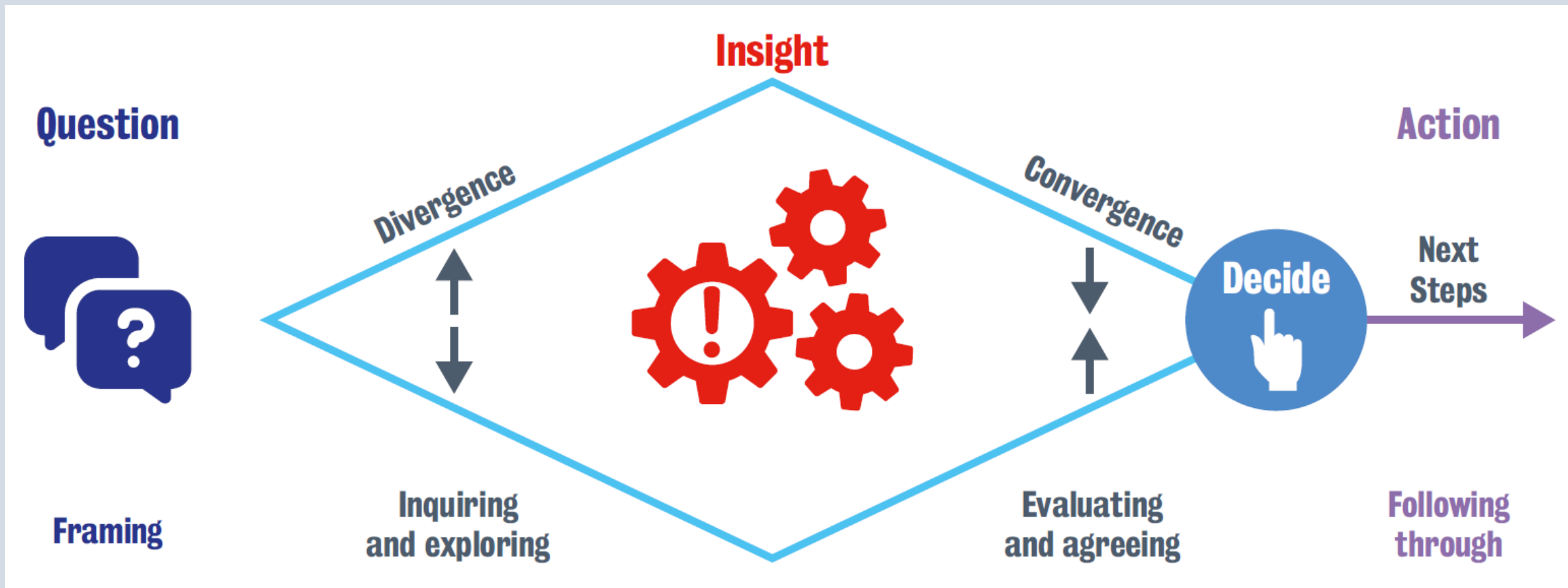
Policy Lab Question:

“Given recent developments in oral health care policy and practice in Canada and internationally, what else is needed in terms of investments or other conditions to maximize caries prevention and care among infants and children?”

Win⁶ Cube: We consider the interests of different stakeholders



To try and effectively work with this complex issue, we need to both recognise and consider the 6 key stakeholder groups who can influence progress/lack of progress towards a Cavity-Free Future (CFF)



Example: Canada Oral Health Policy Lab

The diagram below shows the different stages of the workshop as it moved through the diamond flow.

Reviewing the current position

- What progress has been made so far, where has it been fastest and greatest?
- What are the biggest constraints or challenges?
- What other facts, figures or examples are worth knowing about to inform the discussions?
- What are the most important insights to frame and inform the discussions?



Identifying the opportunities for change

- What are the lessons from developments internationally that show how progress might be made in Canada?
- How do the impacts of previous Policy Labs point to opportunities in Canada?
- What is happening in Canada that can be built on?



Generating a long list of potential ideas for action

- What actions could be considered from the perspective of different stakeholders?
- How much impact would these actions have in the short- and longer-term?
- How much effort and resource would be needed to implement these actions?



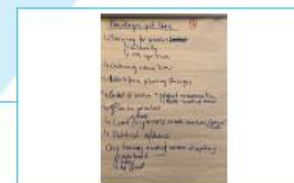
Working up a short list of proposals

- What is the 'ambition' for 2030 – what will have changed in the way caries prevention and care is organised and delivered?
- What tangible outcomes will the proposal bring about?
- What needs to happen and who would be involved?
- What would be the milestones between then and now?



Suggesting next steps

- What could be done to follow through on the outputs of the Policy Lab?
- Which stakeholders might be the focus for initial engagement?



The Story so far.....

FDI Section



**Chief Dental Officers/
Dental Public Health**

[Home](#) > [Who we are](#) > [Governance](#) > [Sections](#) > [Chief Dental Officers/Dental Public Health](#)

Alliance for a Cavity-Free Future



ACFF Global Policy Labs

[2019 ACFF Policy Lab report](#)

[2018 ACFF Policy Lab report](#)

[2017 ACFF Policy Lab report](#)

ACFF Global Consensus for Achieving a Cavity-Free Future

[A Global Consensus for Achieving a Cavity-Free Future](#)

[Policy Recommendations](#)

[Executive Summary](#)

ACFF National Policy Labs

[2023 ACFF Canada Policy Lab report](#)

The Story so far.....

3 Dental Policy Labs

4 Priority Actions

Towards Oral and Dental Health through Partnership

How can the oral health and dental industries benefit from enabling positive behaviour in caries prevention and control amongst patients and the public?

The Alliance for a Cavity-Free Future
Professor Nigel Pitts

The Innovation and Translation Hub
Professor Nigel Pitts, Dr Marco Manzoni and Catherine Mayne

Power of Numbers Ltd
Ross Pow

March 2020

Towards paying for health in dentistry

How can we create an implement acceptable prevention based dental payment systems to achieve and maintain health outcomes?

The Alliance for a Cavity-Free Future
Professor Nigel Pitts, Dr Marco Manzoni and Catherine Mayne

The Innovation and Translation Hub
King's College London, Faculty of Dentistry, Oral & Craniofacial Sciences

The Policy Institute at King's
Dr Harriet Boulding

Power of Numbers Ltd
Ross Pow

January 2019

Towards a cavity-free future

How do we accelerate a policy shift towards increased resource allocation for caries prevention and control?

The Alliance for a Cavity-Free Future
Professor Nigel Pitts, Dr Marco Manzoni and Catherine Mayne

The Innovation and Translation Centre, King's College London
Dental Institute

The Policy Institute at King's
Dr Saba Hitaricha, Dr Harriet Boulding and Professor Jonathan Grant

Power of Numbers Ltd
Ross Pow

June 2017

Demonstrate the value of a cavity-free world to: professionals, the public and policymakers

Shift public and industry behaviours

Create prevention-based payment systems

Better equip the dental and healthcare workforce

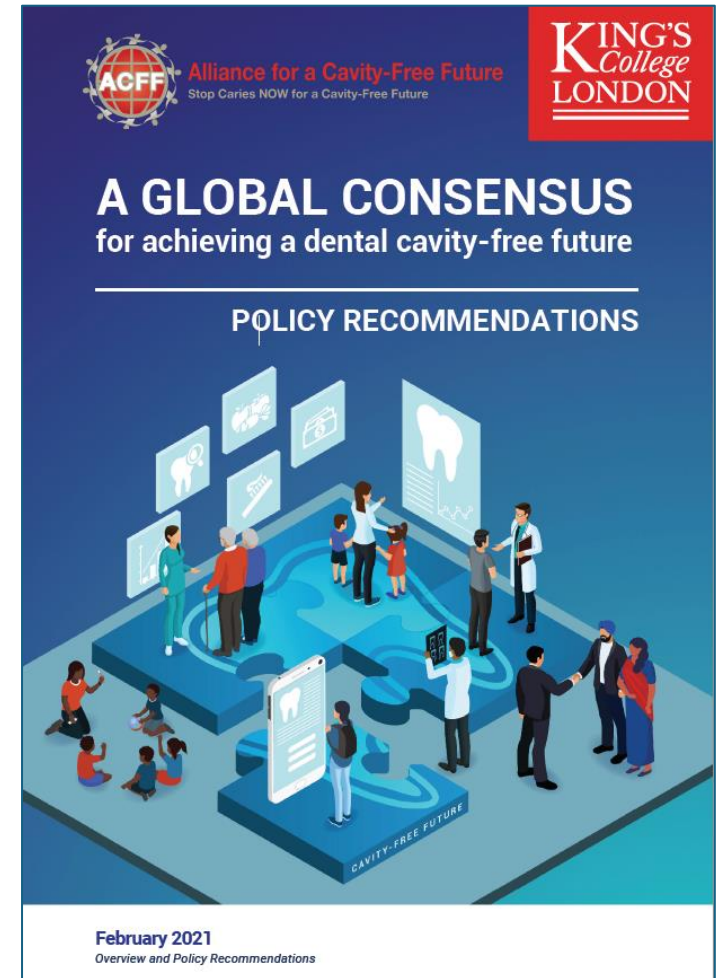
Making Cavities History: *Making the case for prevention*



Full Report



Executive Summary



Policy Recommendations

<https://www.acffglobal.org/making-cavities-history/>

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ACFF Oral Health Policy Lab Network

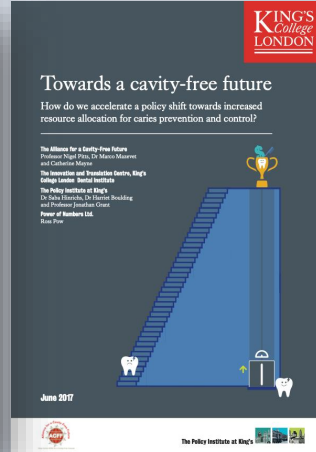
What is the Oral Health Policy Lab Network

- The Oral Health Policy Lab Network grew from the desire to implement the policies that were created during the ACFF's three Policy Labs in London.
- It is supported by a number of worldwide experts from across the spectrum of oral health.
- It was originally named the Dental Policy Lab Network but has now been changed to by the Oral Health Policy Lab Network. This is to reflect the aims and that there are a multitude of stakeholders and professions involved in managing caries and not just those in the dental sphere.

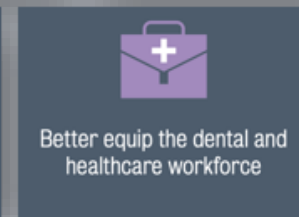
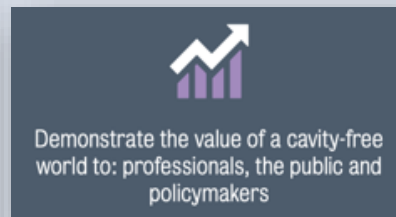
ACFF Oral Health Policy Lab Network

How has the Network developed

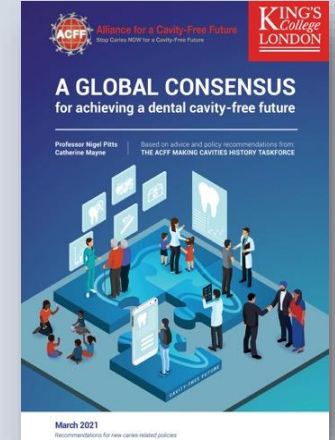
3 Dental Policy Labs



4 Priority Actions



Policies to Make Cavities History



Oral Health Policy Lab Network to support the drive for change

ACFF Oral Health Policy Lab Network

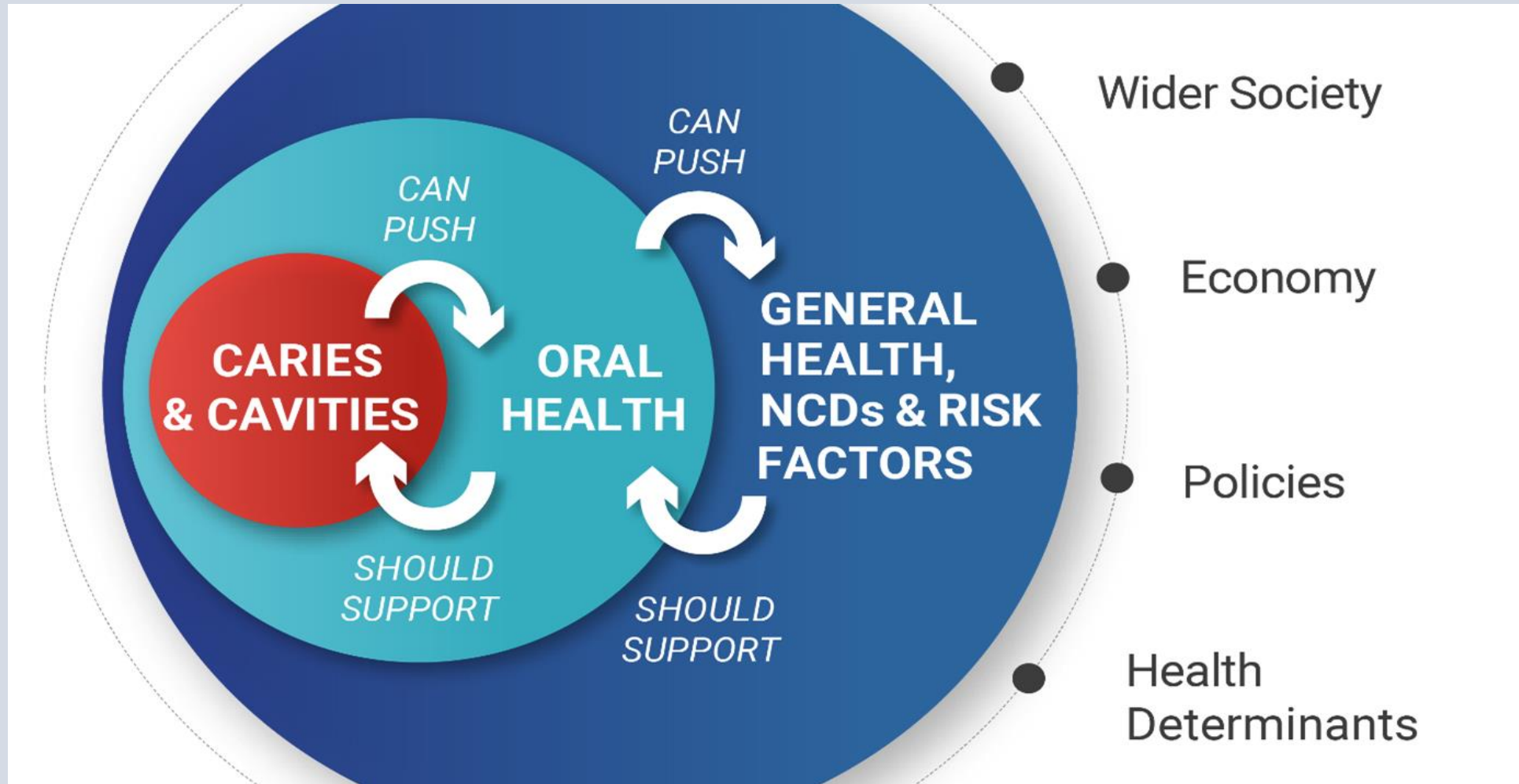
What are the Objectives of the Network?

At the ACFF Global Virtual Summit 2021, George Tsakos presented on the development of the Oral Health Policy Lab Network and outlined its three key objectives:

1. Demonstrate the **VALUE** of a cavity-free future to all stakeholders
2. Develop a **TOOLKIT** of methods and resources to help countries make progress
3. Work first with a small number of **EXEMPLAR COUNTRIES** to provide support & disseminate learning



The Network aims to bring caries management into wider health considerations



ACFF Oral Health Policy Lab Network – original plans

Work with Exemplar Countries will help develop toolkits that will comprise a range of methods and resources to bring about the necessary change

WHAT

Designing the overall vision for bringing about a Cavity-Free Future in the country

HOW

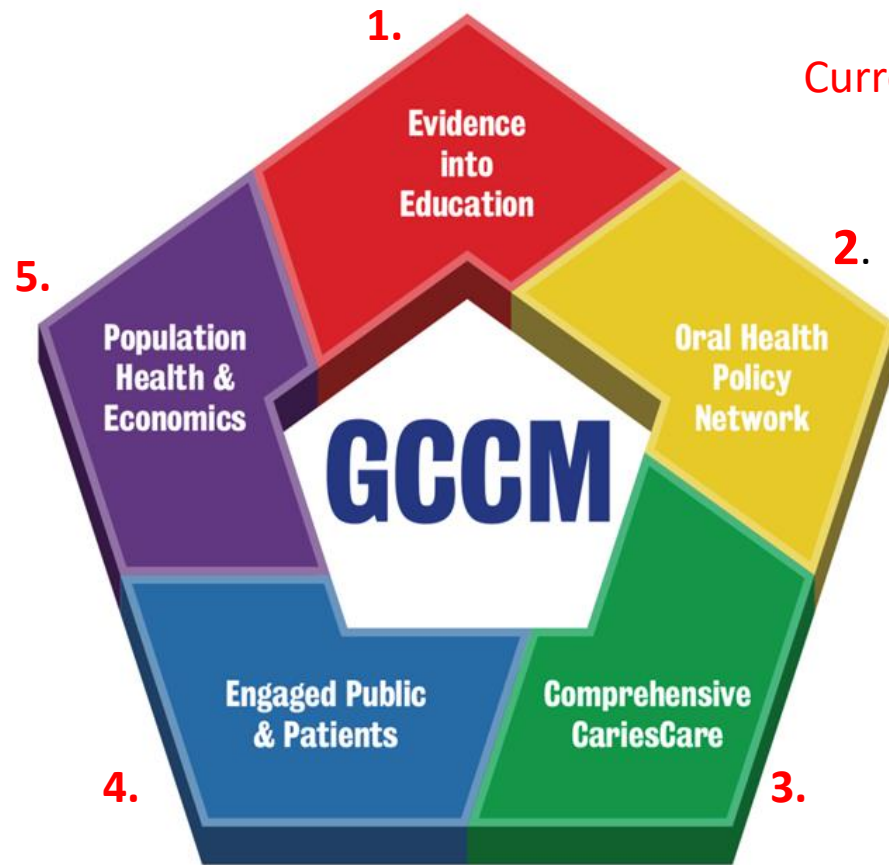
Options for change, what is working, what the lessons are

EVIDENCE

The value of CFF for the country and data to support choices in how that is delivered

- ⚙️ Benchmarking current state
- ⚙️ Stakeholder alignment
- ⚙️ Workforce analysis
- ⚙️ Payment models
- ⚙️ Role of industry
- ⚙️ Population behaviours

Currently fundraising from multiple sources to support **both** Charities



“GCCM”

a worked example of Impact

GCCM comprising:

- the **Alliance for a Cavity Free Future** (Global Impact Charity based at King’s)
- the **International Caries Detection & Assessment System Foundation** (International Impact Charity based at King’s)
- **King’s College London** (FoDOCS Faculty, & Policy Institute)
- **International Partners**
- **International Supporters**

Global Collaboratory for Caries Management (GCCM)



Stop Caries NOW for a Cavity-Free Future



ICDAS
FOUNDATION

International Caries Detection and Assessment System



The Global Collaboratory for Caries Management

controlling tooth decay across the Life Course

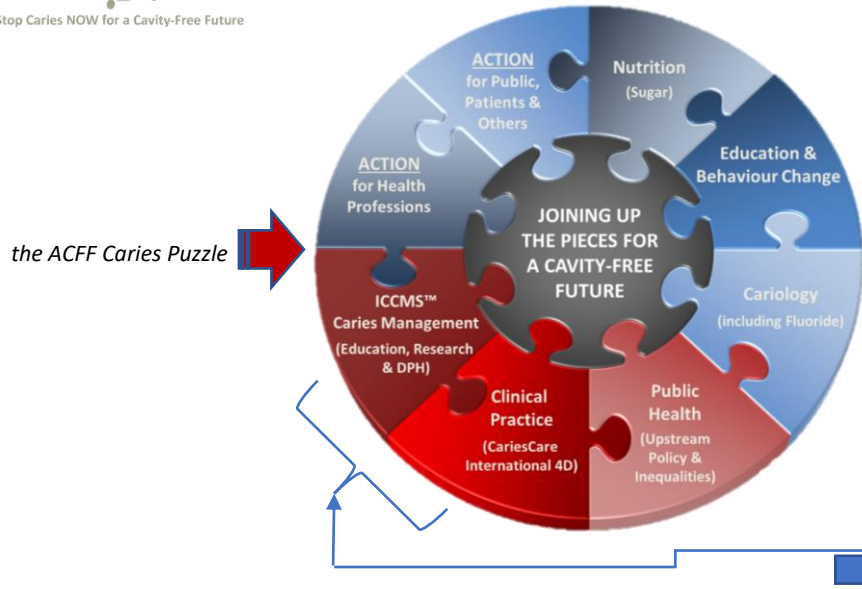


Stop Caries NOW for a Cavity-Free Future

"Stretch" Goal:
Every child born in 2030 and thereafter should stay cavity free during their lifetime

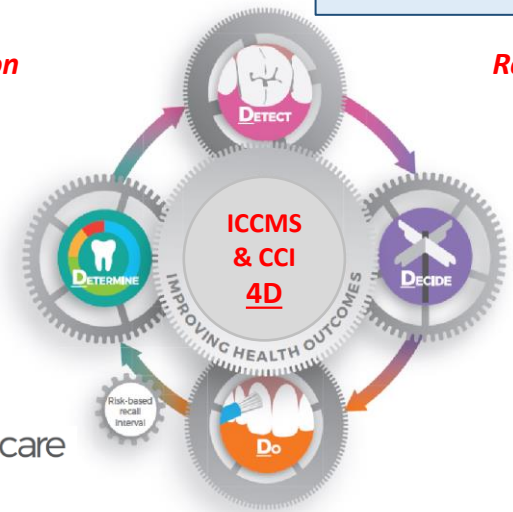


Vision: *To improve human health worldwide by the prevention and control of dental caries throughout life*



Education

Research

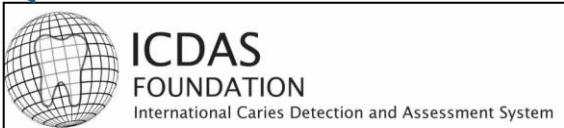


cariescare INTERNATIONAL
Practice

Public Health

International Caries Classification and Management System - ICCMS™

Phasing up Caries Prevention and MI Management – the 14 year Journey from Montpellier to Temple to London and the World



2010



Montpellier



2012

Temple

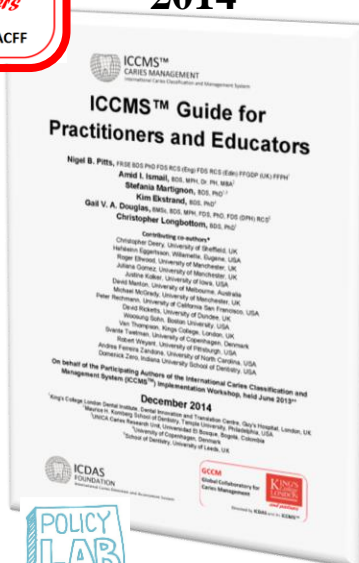


2013

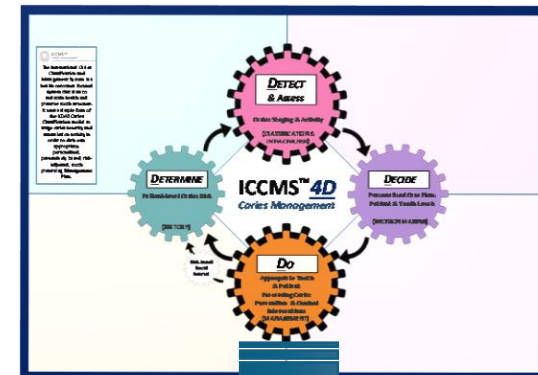
London



2014



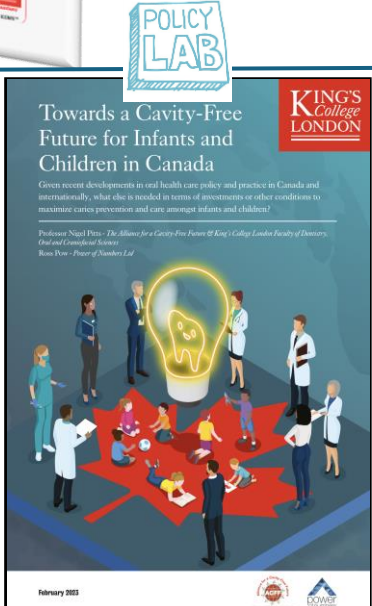
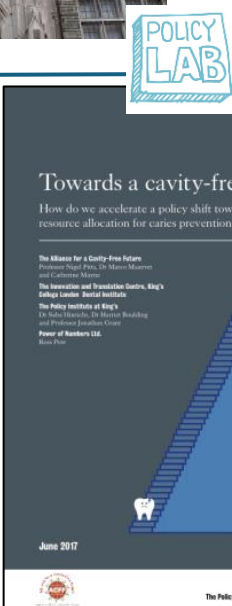
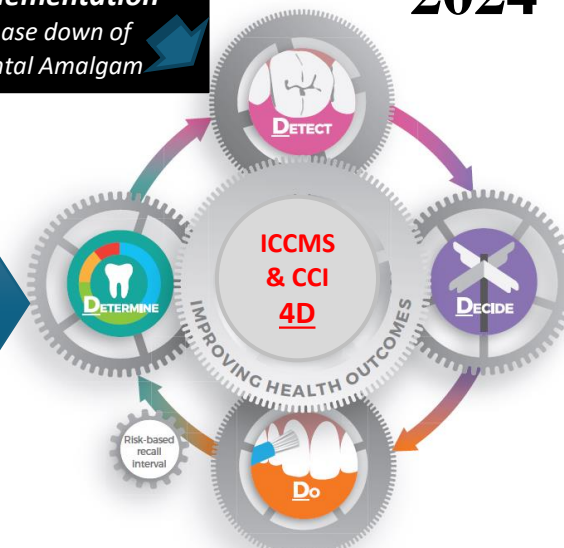
2015



2017

+ Minamata Treaty Implementation phase down of Dental Amalgam

2024



2017-2024

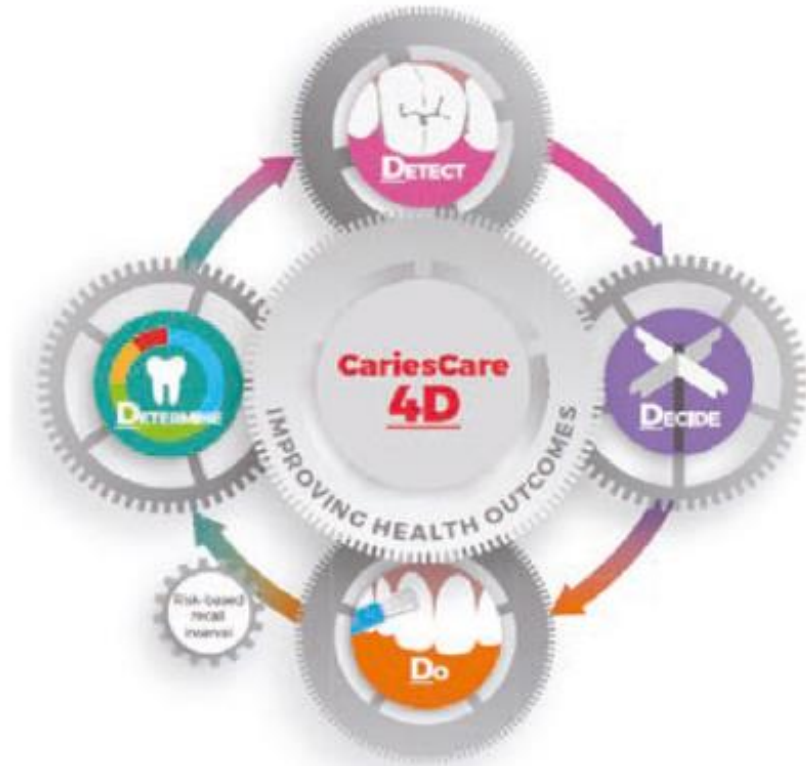


Stop Caries NOW for a Cavity-Free Future



GCCM: Bringing expertise in preventive/MI caries management

'CariesCare International "4D" cycle'¹⁴



Determine

Determine patient level risk

Detect

Detect and Assess caries staging and activity

Decide

Decide on a personalised care plan

Do

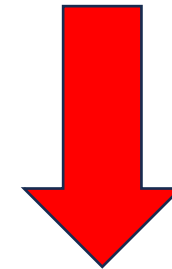
Do appropriate tooth and patient preserving caries prevention and control interventions

The future of GCCM – focus areas

1. **Capacity & Sustainability** - a supported and sustainable GCCM to ensure the smooth running of the scaled Collaboratory, support **Evidence into Education** & areas of focus for impact
2. **Policy** - **Oral Health Policy Network** – creating and sharing locally implementable solutions for making cavities history by **delivering key WHO Action Plan recommendations to specific Countries**
3. **Practice** - Equipping Oral Health Care Teams to deliver “Preventive Dental Medicine” – that is best evidence informed **CariesCare clinical practice** using the aid of **digital software solutions**
4. **Public & Patients** - Engaging public and patients, improving oral health literacy, communicating tooth decay is preventable through lifestyle changes, self-care and **behaviour change**.
5. **Populations & Economics** - Developing population data collection and economic models and to assess changes in health and health inclusivity in preventing and managing caries.



2013



2024

Global Collaboratory for Caries Management (GCCM)

Country-level Oral Health Policy Labs

Canada Oral Health Policy Lab *(presented to last year's meeting)*

- The Policy Lab was held in Ottawa, Canada, in November 2022 and chaired by Prof. Bob Schroth, Co-Chair of the ACFF Canada-US Chapter.
- It was the first Exemplar Country and explored the theme of “*Caries care for children and infants*”.
- An opportunity timed to support oral health policy change opportunities in Canada.
- A showcase of the success of the Policy Lab format in Oral Health

Towards a Cavity-Free Future for Infants and Children in Canada

KING'S
College
LONDON

Given recent developments in oral health care policy and practice in Canada and internationally, what else is needed in terms of investments or other conditions to maximize caries prevention and care amongst infants and children?

Professor Nigel Pitts - *The Alliance for a Cavity-Free Future & King's College London Faculty of Dentistry, Oral and Craniofacial Sciences*

Ross Pow - *Power of Numbers Ltd*



February 2023



“

It was very exciting to host the first ACFF policy lab outside of the UK right here in Canada. I personally believe the meeting brought together a very diverse group of individuals with expertise in different domains to tackle how best to maximize caries prevention and care among infants and children in Canada and internationally. There is tremendous change on the horizon for children's oral health in Canada and we hope that one of the outcomes of this meeting will be renewed emphasis on prevention instead of solely focusing on the treatment of caries.

- **Bob Schroth**



”



“

Le laboratoire a été une expérience extraordinaire! En effet, réunir des personnes de différents horizons pour réfléchir à des solutions et générer des actions concrètes afin d'éliminer la carie dentaire chez les enfants est une façon novatrice de renforcer la capacité d'action collective pour améliorer la santé buccodentaire des populations. Merci!”

- **Stephanie Morneau**

”

“

This policy lab on caries management strategies among children in Canada fell at a great time, given the significant changes currently emerging in Canada's dental care system. Having a broad range of people in one room, all interested in finding ways to better serve and care for the, often, most marginalized children in the country, generated some excellent and novel ideas to optimize these dental service changes for the maximum benefit to Canada's children.

- **Paul Allison**

”



Towards a Cavity-Free Future for Infants and Children in Canada

Given recent developments in oral health care policy and practice in Canada and internationally, what else is needed in terms of investments or other conditions to maximize caries prevention and care amongst infants and children?



THE CHALLENGE

Untreated tooth decay afflicts up to 90% of children in some Canadian communities



THE OPPORTUNITY

This is a 'moment in time' to maximize caries prevention and care for children in Canada



THE AMBITION FOR 2030

Enhanced prevention, wider access, improved outcomes and sustainable funding



THE FIRST STEPS:

ACTIONS TO CREATE MOMENTUM TOWARDS THE 2030 AMBITION



STRATEGIC ENABLERS

- Sustainably fund caries prevention and care
- Make the most of data



UPSTREAM PREVENTION

- Focus policy on the wider determinants of health and especially sugar consumption
- Promote locally appropriate water fluoride strategies



ORAL HEALTH WORKFORCE

- Shift perceptions and practice in the dentistry profession from treatment to prevention
- Expand and integrate the oral health workforce



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

- Co-design culturally and community appropriate services with patients and communities
- Develop practical tools or apps to empower parents and families in prevention

MAKING IT HAPPEN

Working together with the full range of stakeholders will be critical to the next steps in this journey towards a Cavity-Free Future for infants and children in Canada. Stakeholders include:

Government and health systems

Oral health care professionals

Other providers of services to infants and children

Patients, families and carers, local community bodies

Payers and insurers

Professional bodies, guidance and education providers

Dental and oral health industries

Engaging and acting across four complementary themes is essential. The themes identified are:

- Strategic enablers
- Upstream prevention
- Oral health workforce
- Community empowerment



GCCM

Global Collaboratory for Caries Management

KINGS COLLEGE LONDON

oral practice



power of numbers



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Caries NOW for a Cavity-Free Fu



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Next Steps for the Oral Health Policy Lab Network:

Many discussions on-going....

- All Labs continue to have an impact over time, e.g:
 - Expreso initiative in France
 - Changes in Payments Systems in Scotland from November 1st 2023
 - Canada Lab impacting developments in Canada
- Approaches from New Zealand after FDI
- Interest from CDOs at 2023 FDI meeting in Sydney
- Discussions around an OHPL in South Africa
- Interest from Latin America
- EADPH considering a Special Interest Group around this topic
- A real challenge to meet the demand, as to do these properly is labour intensive, time consuming - takes resources, diplomacy & special skill sets



**How can ACFF Oral Health Policy Labs best assist
the FDI CDO/DPH Section Going Forward ?**

Enhancing the OHPL Network and sharing expertise and findings



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? Focus on Country-level Labs



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SUMMARY



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