

Removing Access to Care Barriers and Inequities

- The cost of dental care is a significant issue for many New Zealanders; 52% of people in high deprivation areas avoid dental care due to cost.
There are particular access inequities for young people and Māori and Pacific children.
- The NZDA supports the goal of 'equal access to oral health services for all populations'.
- It wants targeted preventative care for children, adolescents and young adults at particular risk.
- It advocates for –
 - funding of dental care for young adults
 - designing dental service models relevant to specific communities and for high-need population groups
 - introducing adult oral health care programmes that meet the needs of local communities and high-need population groups
- The *Roadmap* supports considering dependent older adults as a vulnerable population group when designing, funding, and delivering oral health programmes.
- It also supports the professional development of general dentists, specialist dentists, and oral health professionals who support people with disabilities and complex health needs.

Queries and Comments

For queries and comments please contact:

Dr Robin Whyman
Director (Dental Policy)
NZDA

Roadmap@nzda.org.nz
or visit: roadmap.nzda.org.nz

