

Developing a Community Directed Research Agenda on Oral Health and Diabetes

Anne Koerber, John Crawford, and Linda Kaste



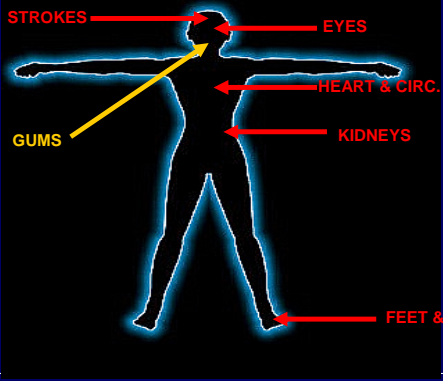
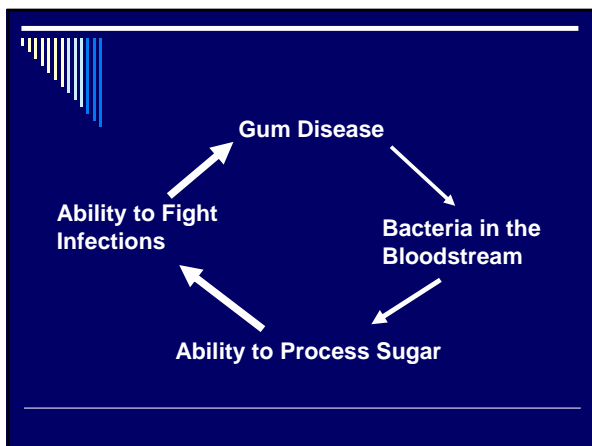
University of Illinois at Chicago College of Dentistry
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Essential People

- Izadore Torres
- Esther Vega
- Khatija Knoorullah
- Maria Sanchez
- Hector Rico
- Alexandra

Purpose of Project

- To develop a community-oriented research agenda, for the prevention of oral diseases and promotion of oral health.
- Specifically addressing diabetes and oral health.

Activities

- Focus Groups with Community Members
- Interviews with Community Leaders
- Interviews with Health Care Providers

Focus Groups--12

- Parents
- Diabetics
- Elders
- Teens

What You Told Us

- Many People are Unaware of the Diabetes—Oral Health Link

Getting Health Information to the Community

- Word of Mouth is Important
 - Literacy and Language Issues
 - Workshops and Meetings
- Use multiple modalities
 - TV
 - Radio
 - Internet for teens
 - Schools
 - Community Clinics

Interviews with Community Leaders

- Concern with Access to Dental Care
- Other Community Priorities
 - Housing
 - Day Care
 - Other health issues

Interviews with Health Professionals

- Dentists are aware of the link
- Other providers (nutritionists, nurses, physicians) are not consistently aware but are very interested
- Providers could use professional education venues to learn
- Dentists are willing to help spread the word through presentations, patient education

Next Steps

- Developing a Community Agenda to
 - Promote Oral Health
 - Promote Diabetic Health
 - Promote Prevention of Gum Disease
 - Promote Prevention of Diabetes



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