

Join the Mouth Care in Care Homes Project for Coventry and Warwickshire

Did you know that...

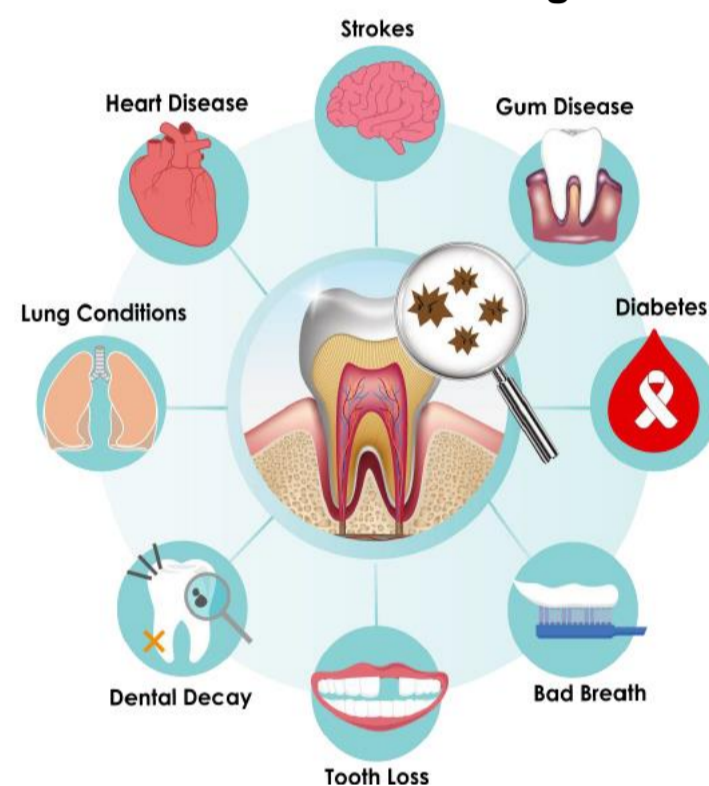
- ❖ We have an ageing population, who are keeping their teeth for longer
- ❖ Older people in care homes may also have pre-existing medical conditions and more complex oral health needs
- ❖ They may become more dependent on carers to help provide their mouth care
- ❖ Daily oral hygiene is an important part of personal care for residents who live in care homes.

Project Aim: To provide care staff with basic mouth care knowledge, skills, and confidence to improve the oral health of residents in care homes and to standardise mouth care documentation.

Objectives: -- To train Oral Care Champions who will be able to:

- Lead on oral health practices in the care home
- Introduce and maintain up-to-date oral care guidance/information
- Introduce and implement oral care documentation and identify who is responsible for the completion of each form
- Make sure all care staff are trained in oral care
- Ensure staff know how to access dental services for residents.

Links Between Poor Oral Health And General Wellbeing



National Mouth Care Guidance



Oral Health for Adults in Care Homes, NICE guideline (NG48), July 2016



Oral Health in Care Homes, Quality Standard (QS151), June 2017



Smiling Matters CQC report, June 2019, and Smiling Matters progress report, March 2023



Oral Health Toolkit for Adults in Care Homes, November 2020

Pilot study:

- ❖ Aimed to raise awareness of the importance of the Oral Care Champion in establishing, promoting and maintaining good oral health practices within their care home
- ❖ We successfully identified, trained and established 18 Oral Care Champions in 5 care homes.
- ❖ **Due to the success of the pilot study we are now rolling out the Mouth Care Improvement Programme to all care homes in Coventry and Warwickshire.**

NB: Total number of staff engaged during the pilot - 90

Becoming an Oral Care Champion

- The Oral Health Improvement team provide bespoke free training for nominated oral care champions in care homes to equip them with knowledge and skills to train other staff
- Having identified oral care champions in your care home significantly improves oral health outcomes for your residents and helps to fulfil CQC requirements.

Next steps

To express an interest in participating in the **Mouth Care Improvement Programme** please contact the Oral Health Improvement Team via email or phone:

Oral.HealthTeam@covwarkpt.nhs.uk
024 7696 1327

Pathway for Oral Care in Care Homes

