Special Needs Oral Health Care Model

This project aims to provide oral health care to those afflicted with any type of disability, from young children with developmental delays to the disabled elderly. In Taiwan, the decayed tooth rate is 91.96%, and those who cannot receive treatment are most often those with disabilities, who make up roughly 4.87% of the Taiwanese population. This program, through the implementation of oral health education, home visits, and a specialized shuttle bus service for the disabled to and from dental hospitals, has expanded access to oral hygiene in Taiwan. Since the program’s conception, 49,500 persons have been served and the rate of dental decay has declined due to the comprehensive education regarding teeth cleaning, oral massage and flossing provided by Taipei Medical University Shuang-Ho Hospital.

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