

From: [SIM_OHA](#)
To: [Chasarro, Deanna L](#)
Subject: Fw: Oral Health Measures
Date: Friday, August 05, 2016 3:05:13 PM

From: kathy langlais <kathlanglais@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, August 5, 2016 5:28 AM
To: SIM, OHA
Subject: Oral Health Measures

Good Morning,

I have worked as a dental hygienist for over 36 years and I value the importance of disease prevention at all levels. Tooth decay is an infectious disease that can be prevented, and if left untreated it can lead to pain, tooth loss and in extreme circumstances death. The health of each individual begins in the mouth. A healthy mouth is connected to a healthy body and an unhealthy mouth can have devastating effects on overall health. I see this every day working in a public health facility that treats patients with mental health and addiction. After reviewing The Connecticut Health Care Innovation Plan, I strongly urge that the oral health measures be moved from the Development and Reporting Only set to the Core Measure set. Oral health outcomes are directly connected to growth and development, nutrition, and tobacco addiction and as a result oral health measures should be recognized when treating the whole person. The key to success is to develop an integrative health partnership that shifts from a disease driven system to a wellness driven system, and in my opinion recognizing the value of oral health is critical to overall health.

Thank you,

Kathy Langlais, RDH
127 Harvard Pl
Bristol, CT 06010