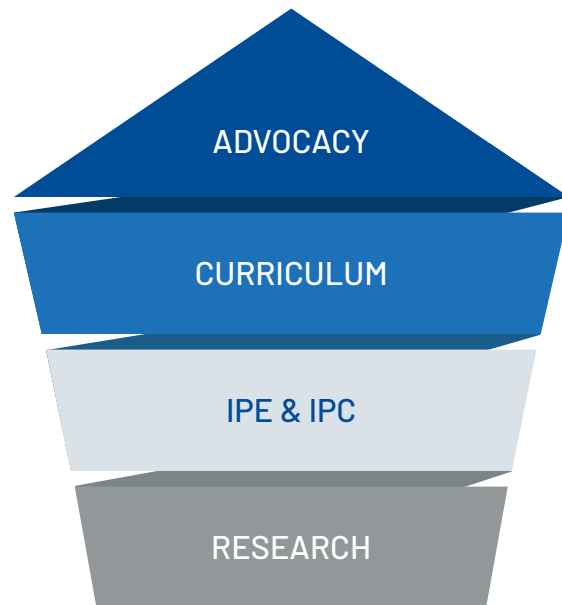


Oral Health Education's Call to Action: Advancing the WHO Oral Health Action Plan

In 2023, ADEE & ADEA began collaborating with global leaders to support and advance the first WHO Oral Health Action Plan.

The Action Plan sets targets for 2030 providing a unique opportunity for OHPE. Central to the Action Plan is promotion of oral health as critical to general health, the need to advance universal health coverage, & views research as underpinning oral health professions.

The international oral health education associations have identified four themes as summarised in the graphic below to guide members in making meaningful change.



OHPE: Oral Health Professionals Education



Oral Health Education's Call to Action:

Advancing the WHO
Oral Health Action Plan

Our call to you to act:

1. Advocate for change
2. Review your curriculum
3. Engage IPE & IPC
4. Research & Evidence Base

Oral Health Education's Call to Action:

Advancing the WHO
Oral Health Action Plan



**Summary guidance for
faculty and students**

adee ADVANCING EDUCATION
AND ORAL HEALTH

ADEA THE VOICE OF
DENTAL EDUCATION

Association for Dental Education in Europe

Dublin Dental University Hospital
Trinity College: D02F859
Dublin 2: Ireland

American Dental Education Association

655 K Street NW, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20001

1. Advocacy

Advocacy for universal healthcare & public dental health priorities are central to the WHO Global Oral Health Action Plan. To realise this educators need to play our role. We need to support local governments in their national response, & educate faculty & students on the key principles & the aspirations of the Action Plan.

Advocacy begins locally to make change happen. To assist schools, the International Oral Health Education Associations collaboratively created a public service animation summarising key aspiration of the Action Plan. Our member institutions can help by:

- Sharing the animation locally
- Conducting community outreach
- Improving preventive practices
- Collaborating with national policymakers
- Assessing community needs and taking local action

2. Curriculum

Curriculum review & updating can be a key enabler of the aspirations of the Action Plan. We therefore encourage our members to:

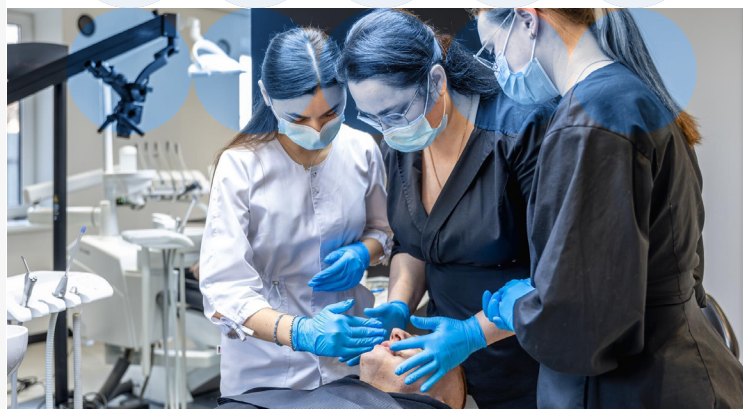
- Prioritise curricula focused on prevention & public health principles
- Ensure programmes rely on evidence-based research
- Review curricula so they address key WHO principle
- Enable ongoing curriculum assessment that ensures quality education.

3. Interprofessional Education and Practice Collaboration

The Action Plan envisages an integrated & agile oral health workforce. Dentistry is part of the wider health systems, with services delivered locally as needed. In this model, members of the dental team are reimaged.

To enable this new model of care may need to change schools & programmes can prepare for this by:

- Fostering collaboration within oral health & wider healthcare providers.
- Proactively teaching the principles of universal UHC.
- Enabling inter professional learning environments & team care experiences.
- Guide students to gain a deeper understanding of professional roles & workforce needs so they can take action for better oral health.



4. Research

Clinical & educational research, the evidence base & best practices are the back bone of the Action Plan. Oral health education must remain rooted in science and Evidence-Based Practice.

We need to ensure we equip our students with the skills to make informed decisions & ground these decisions in data. Schools & programmes can assist by:

- Ensuring their programmes support diverse oral health research.
- Engaging faculty and students in research, aligning with WHO priorities.
- Advocating for multi-country collaborations and standardized research tools.
- Researching oral-health within the broader Non-Communicable Disease agenda.

Our call to you to act:

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2. Review your curriculum
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