Dental Resources for People with Disabilities

Dental care can be difficult for people with paralysis because of limited dexterity or no use of arms or fingers, a lack of providers trained to assist with special needs, and the physical inaccessibility of some dentists’ offices. Some drugs that people with paralysis take may cause dry mouth which can lead to tooth decay. These include drugs used to control bladder spasms, some pain medications, baclofen and others. People should discuss their medications and any dry mouth issues with their dentist as well as their physician.

http://www.aadmd.org
American Academy of Developmental Medicine and Dentistry
PO Box 681
Prospect, KY 40059
The AADMD is a non-profit organization of physicians and dentists whose mission is to work together as clinicians, educators, and advocates, to improve the overall health of children and adults with developmental disabilities.

http://www.ada.org
American Dental Association (ADA)
211 E. Chicago Ave
Chicago, IL 60611
Phone: 312-440-2500
The ADA’s reference librarians can assist people in finding resources such as books and journals with information on dental care for people with special needs.

ADA-- Special Needs

http://www.ada.org/2574.aspx
ADA—Access to Dental Care/Oral Health Care

http://sci.rutgers.edu/
CareCure Forum
CareCure is a spinal cord injury forum and has various postings on dry mouth and dental issues.

http://www.nfdh.org
Dental Lifeline Network
1800 15th Street, Suite 100
Denver, CO 80202
Phone: 303-534-5360
Dental Lifeline Network (formerly the National Foundation of Dentistry for the
Handicapped) is a national humanitarian organization providing access to comprehensive
dental services for people with disabilities or who are elderly or medically at-risk.
http://www.eparent.com

Exceptional Parent magazine often runs a column on dentistry for people with
disabilities.

http://sci.washington.edu/info/newsletters/articles/10_spr_oral_health.asp
“Maintaining Oral Health After Spinal Cord Injury” article. Spinal Cord Injury

www.nidcr.nih.gov
National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR)
National Oral Health Information Clearinghouse
Phone: 866-232-4528
NIDCR has booklets that can be ordered or viewed as PDF files on dental care for people
with special needs. Booklets cover topics such as oral care for people with cerebral palsy,
a guide to wheelchair transfers in dental settings, and caregiving for oral health.

www.nationalmssociety.org
National Multiple Sclerosis Society: Dental Health

http://newmobility.com/
New Mobility magazine
“Medication, Dry Mouth and Tooth Decay” article. New Mobility, Sept.2013 pp.46-47.

http://saiddent.org/
Special Care Advocates in Dentistry (SAID)
SAID seeks to improve the dental health of people with mental and physical disabilities.
Their membership exceeds over 300 members that hail from twenty nine (29) states, they
have over sixty three (63) institutions and three (3) dental schools, who provide services
to institutionalized and community based clients. SAID is the only organization in the
United States that deals solely with the dental needs of the institutionalized client.

http://www.scdonline.org/
Special Care Dentistry Association (SCDA)
330 North Wabash Ave, Suite 200
SCDA provides educational opportunities and information exchange for oral health care professionals who treat patients with special needs.

http://www.specialolympics.org/Sections/What_We_Do/Healthy_Athletes/Health_Programs.aspx?source=QL

http://resources.specialolympics.org/Topics/Healthy_Athletes/Disciplines/Special_Smiles.aspx

Special Olympics offers a Healthy Athletes program with health screenings in seven areas including dental health “Special Smiles”. Phone: 202-824-0308


University of Florida Paul Burtner College of Dentistry: Providing Dental Care
Speaks about the Americans with Disabilities Act and how dentist offices should comply with the ADA. Other sections of this website give advice to dental students on treating people with traumatic injuries such as spinal cord injury.

http://www.dental.pacific.edu/Community_Involvement/Pacific_Center_for_Special_Care_(PCSC).html

University of the Pacific School of Dentistry: Pacific Center for Special Care
Pacific Center for Special Care
University of the Pacific
Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry
155 Fifth Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
Phone: 414-929-6400
This center offers a course to dental care providers on offering services to people with special needs and offers a virtual service where dental assistants go into the community and take care of the dental needs of people who can’t easily go to the dentist.

The information contained in this message is presented for the purpose of educating and informing you about paralysis and its effects. Nothing contained in this message should be construed nor is intended to be used for medical diagnosis or treatment. It should not be used in place of the advice of your physician or other qualified health care provider. Should you have any health care related questions, please call or see your physician or other qualified health care provider promptly. Always consult with your physician or other qualified health care provider before embarking on a
new treatment, diet or fitness program. You should never disregard medical advice or delay in seeking it because of something you have read in this message.

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