

15 years after Oral Health in America: a report of the Surgeon General-what's next?

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Oral Health in America:
A Report of the
Surgeon General



Department of Health and Human Services

Oral Health in America a report of the Surgeon General

- Oral health is more than teeth
- The mouth reflects general health and well-being
- Oral health is inextricably linked to general health and welfare
- Oral diseases and conditions are associated with other health problems

Oral Health in America a report of the Surgeon General

- Oral health must be part of the health equation and on everyone's agenda
- Dentists of color: African-American and Hispanic are substantially under-represented in the profession compared to their respective US population cohorts



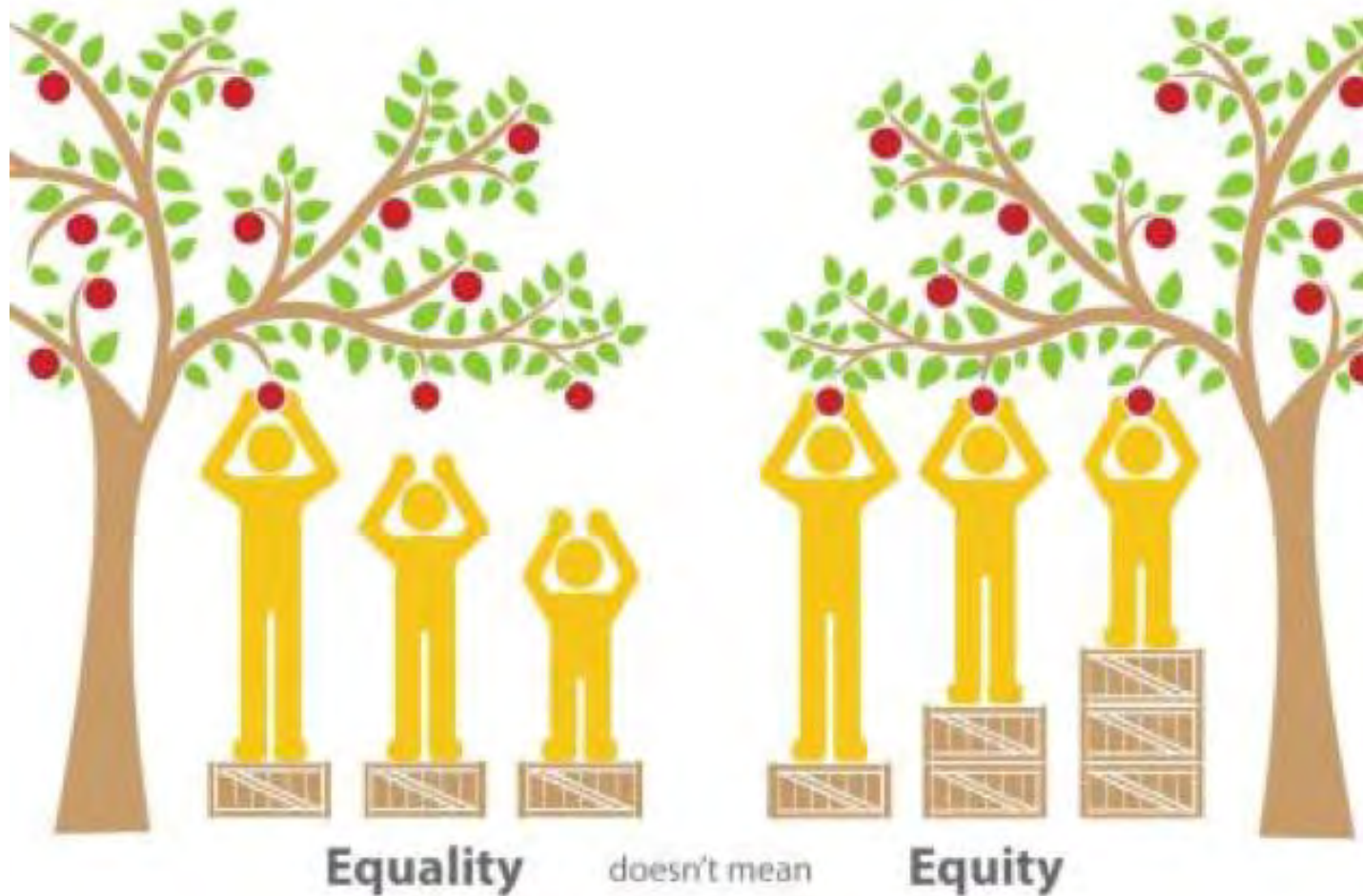
Oral Health in America a report of the Surgeon General

There are profound and consequential oral health disparities in the US population

Population cohorts that display oral health disparities:

- Racial and ethnic minorities, including immigrants and non-English speakers;
- Children, especially those who are young;
- Pregnant women;
- People with special needs;
- Older adults;
- Individuals living in rural and urban underserved areas;
- Uninsured and publicly insured individuals;
- Homeless individuals;
- Populations of lower socioeconomic status; and
- Institutionalized populations

Taken from www.theequityline.org website



Social Justice or Social Injustice?

A National Call to Action to Promote Oral Health

*A Public-Private Partnership
Under the Leadership of
The Office of the Surgeon General*

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

A national Call to Action to promote oral health

- Change the Perception of Oral Health
- Overcome barriers by replicating effective programs and proven methods
- Build the science base and accelerate science transfer
- Increase oral health workforce diversity, capacity and flexibility
- Increase collaborations

What Does the Future Hold?

- Change driven by the ACA
- Whole person care
- Team-based care
- Organized systems of care

What Does the Future Hold?

- Dentistry/Oral Health in primary care
- Reimbursement for value, not volume
- Access to care

Challenges

- Leadership
- Education
- Policy
- Finance