

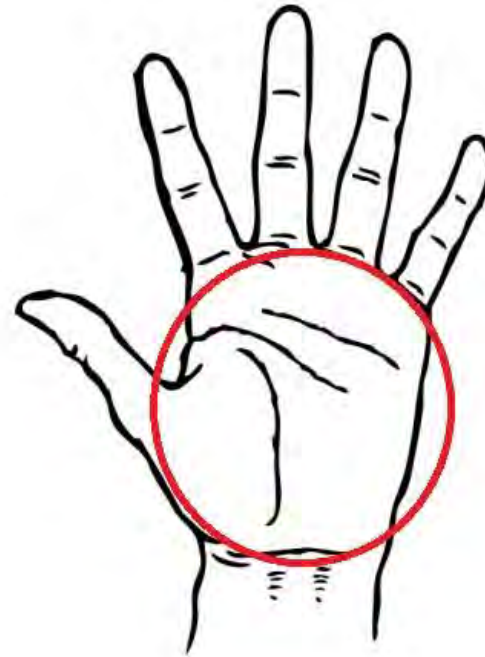
“Every Nursing Home Needs an Oral Care Champion.”

Advancing Oral Health Service
for NH’s Seniors and Institutionalized Individuals

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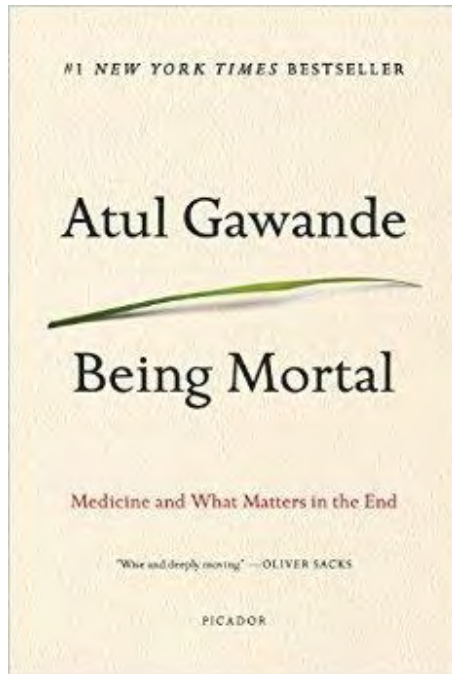
MARCH 4, 2017

The Biggest Wound



Things Fall Apart

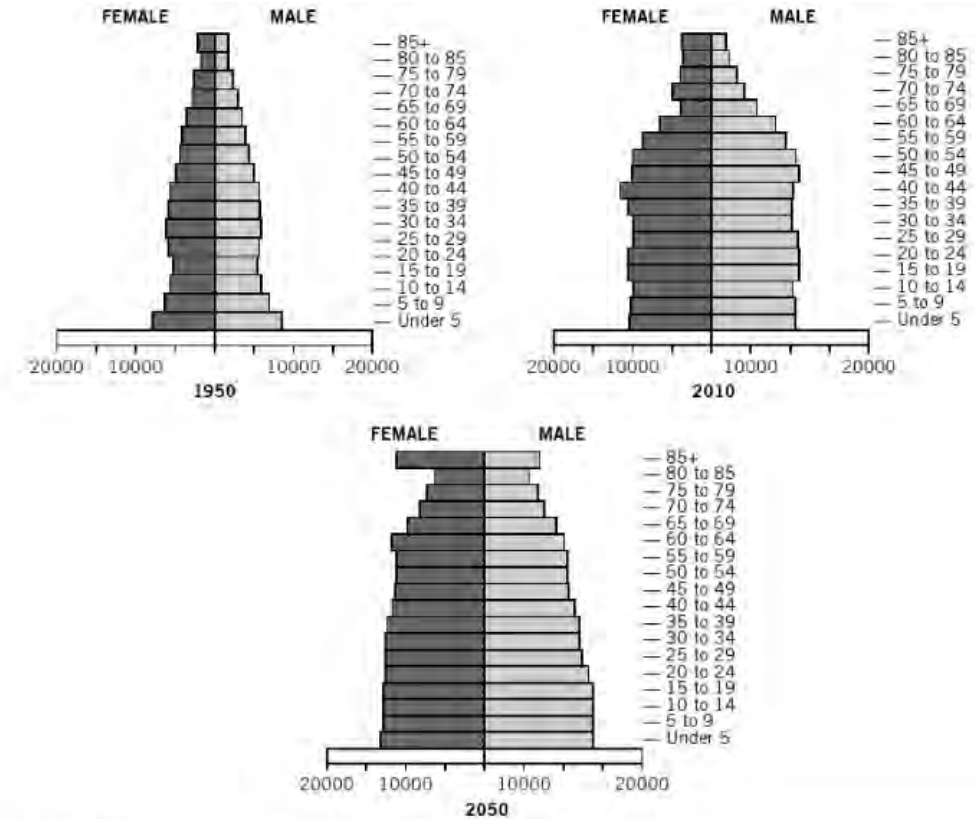
“The story of aging is the story of our parts. Consider the teeth.”



Atul Gawande in Being Mortal , p. 29

Demography of Aging

- Older population is projected to nearly double, growing from 43 Million in 2012 to 84 Million in 2050.
- By 2030, one in five Americans will be 65 years or older.
- Growth in the older population will be driven by the aging of the baby boomers over the next two decades.



Shippee-Rice, Raelene V., Fetzer, Susan, and Long, Jennifer V.. Gerioperative Nursing Care : Principles and Practices of Surgical Care for the Older Adult.

Sea Change Ahead As Baby Boomers Age

- More than three-quarters of adults over age 65 suffer from at least one chronic medical condition that requires ongoing care and management.
- Older adults rely on health care services far more than other segments of the population.
- Additionally, this group will be the most diverse the nation has ever seen, with more education, increased longevity, widely dispersed families, and more racial and ethnic diversity, making their needs much different than previous generations.

Power in Numbers

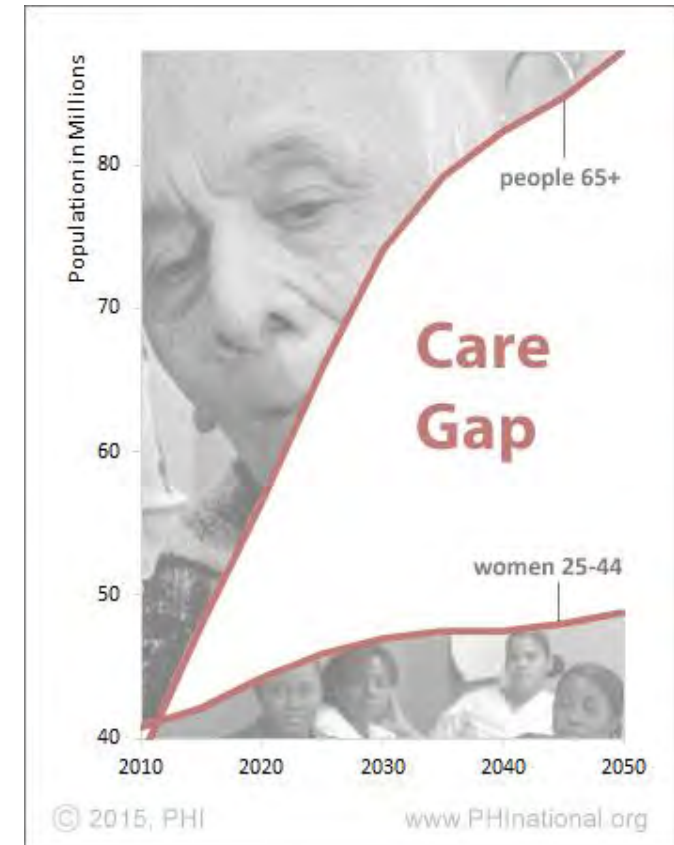
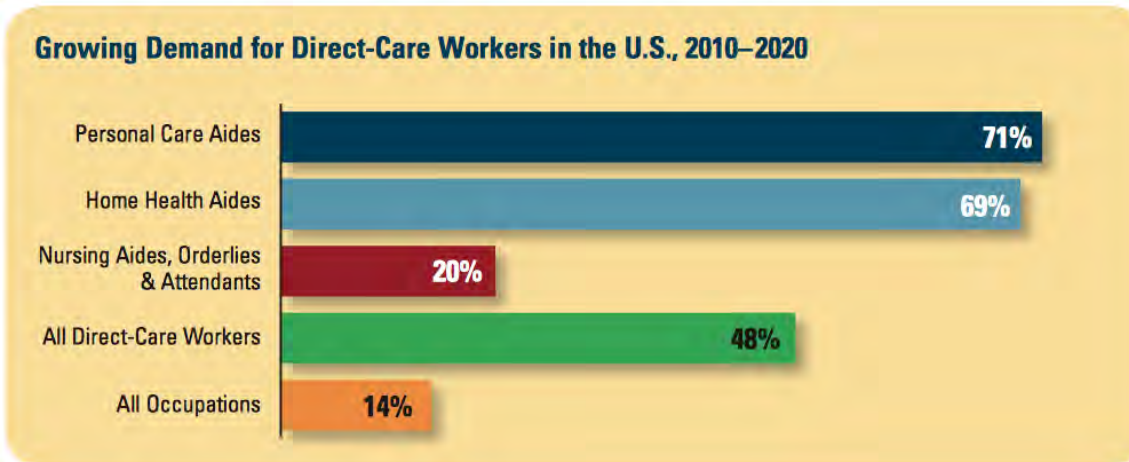
“The Post War generation's tremendous size and its position in history have endowed it with the extraordinary ability to bend, shape and transform American culture.” – Dr. Bill Thomas



Growing Demand

While the population of older adults is growing rapidly, population growth among working-age adults is projected to remain relatively flat. Currently, there are 32 working-age adults for every adult over age 85.

By 2050, that number will plummet to 12.



Accessing Services

- Community based
- Focus on prevention
- Requires policy change



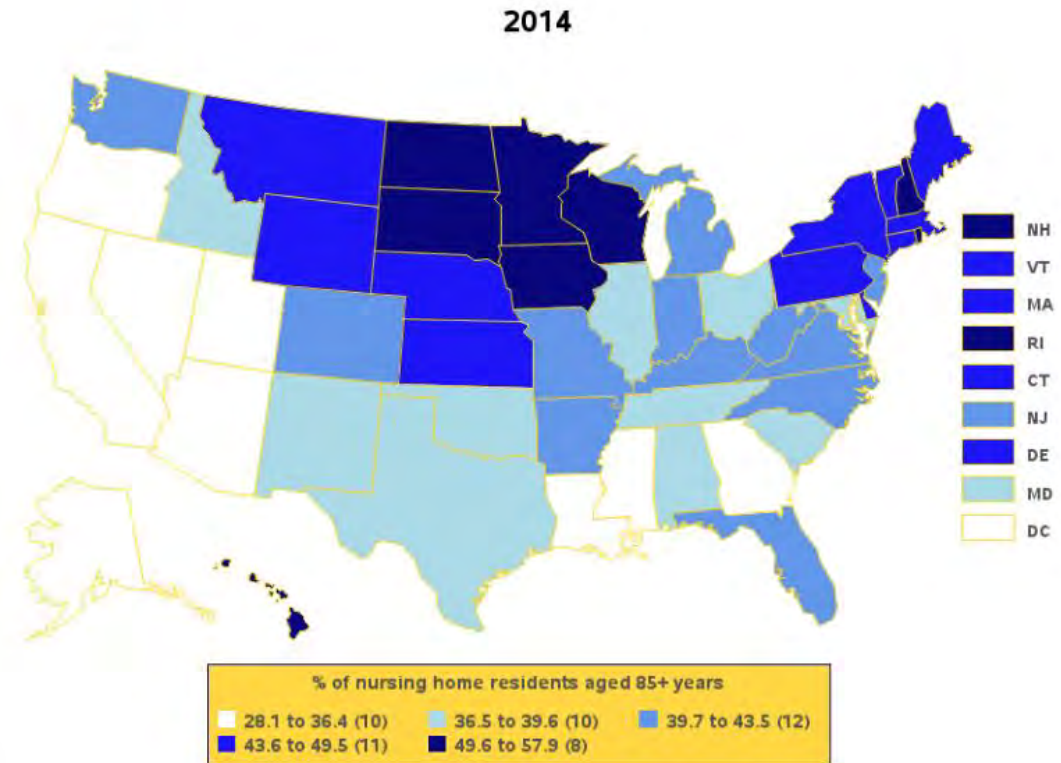
High Risk for Oral Disease

At any one time, not all older adults are at high risk for oral diseases. However, there is a **high probability** that the **majority** will be in one or more of the **oral disease risk groups** in their future. The highest risk is in the few years preceding institutionalization in a nursing facility. Thus, people admitted to nursing facilities often already have compromised oral health.

New Hampshire

~5% of the population
age 65yrs or older
reside in nursing homes

In New Hampshire,
49.6%-57.9% of the NH
population is 85yrs or
older



Source: MDS

Numbers in parentheses in legend indicate number of states in a given category
Boxes to the right of the map indicate color categories for small Eastern states

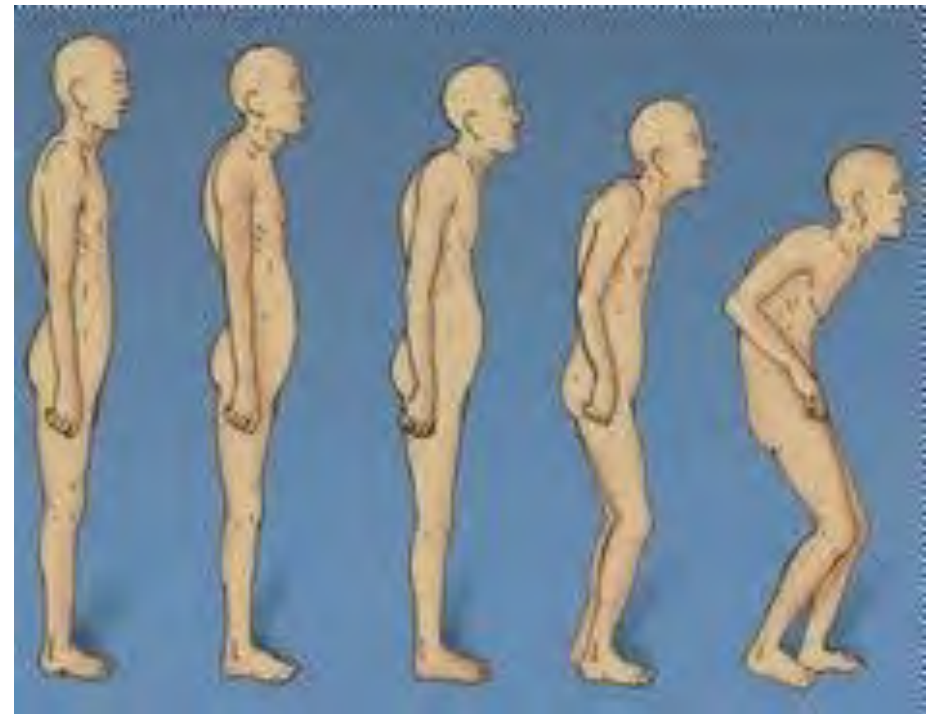
CMS Nursing Home Data Compendium, 2015

Retrieved from https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/CertificationandCompliance/Downloads/nursinghomedatacompendium_508-2015.pdf

The Oldest Old

Frailty is a syndrome associated with reduced functional reserve, impairment in multiple physiological systems, and reduced ability to regain physiological homeostasis.

- Shrinking: unintentional weight loss of 10 pounds or more in the past year.
- Exhaustion: lack of energy or vigor, or the presence of fatigue and tiredness.
- Strength: loss of physical robustness, skeletal muscle soundness.
- Slowness: a lethargic, unsteady, and unbalanced gait.
- Low physical activity: inactivity or sedentariness.

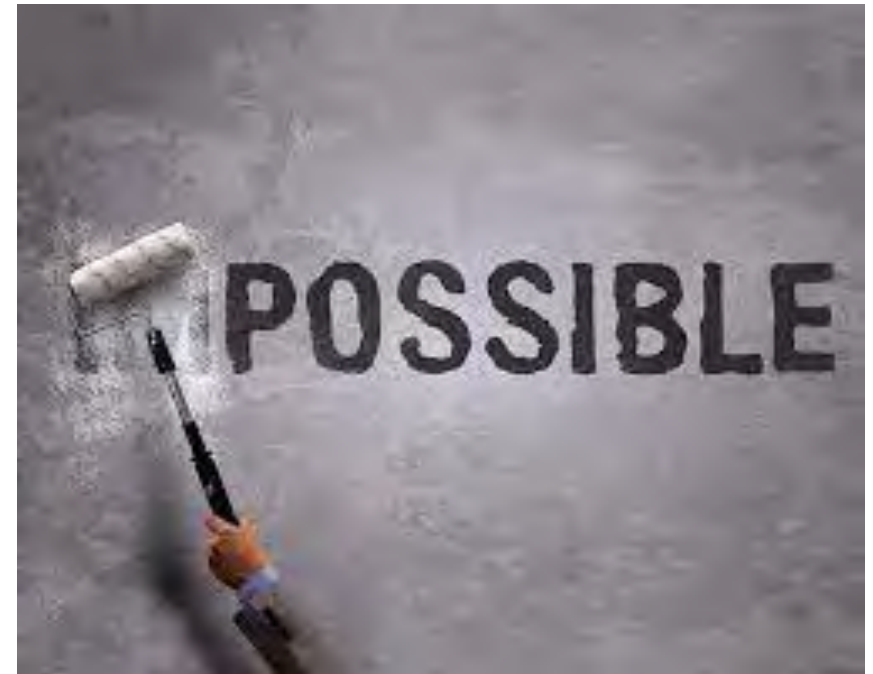


Dementia: Impact on Oral Health

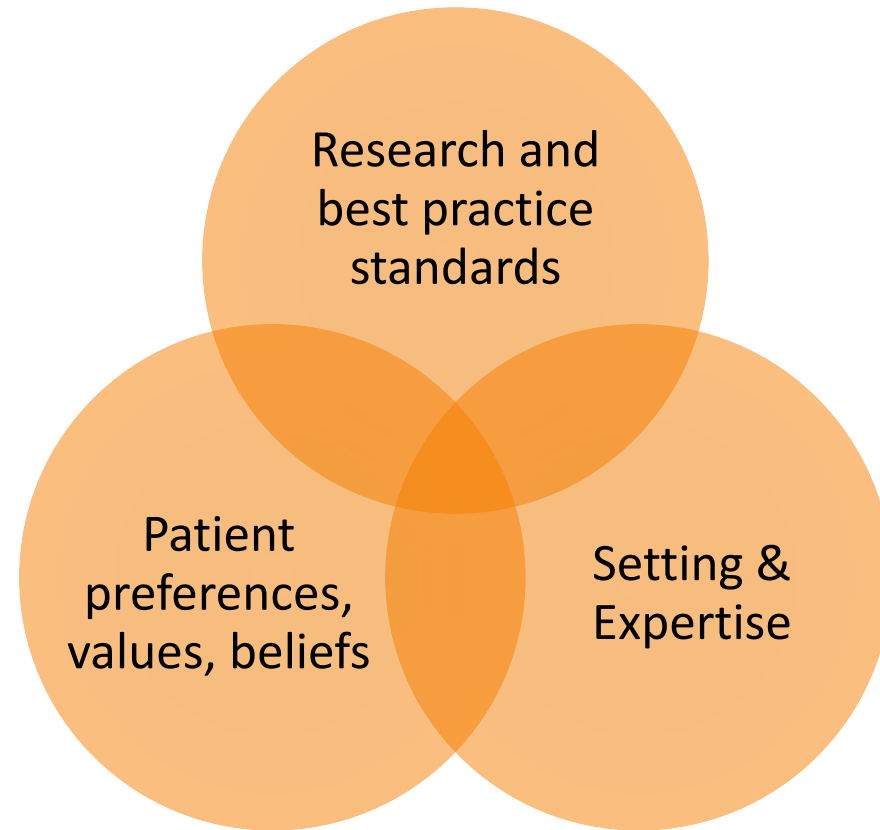
- Decrease perception of need for dental treatment
- Reduce a person's oral hygiene care abilities
- Reduce their ability to communicate dental pain and problems to others
- Decrease recognition of the significance and consequences of dental pain
- Increase the use of medications for behavior management
- Increase barriers to accessing dental treatment

Opportunities

- Workforce/Staffing
- Time/Competing Aims
- Resistant/Reactionary behaviors
- Lack of Support/Resources



Evidenced Based Practice



RDH Needed in LTC

- Improves patient access to care
- Member of the interdisciplinary team
- Provides education and support to direct care staff

“Every Nursing Home Needs an Oral Care Champion.”



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