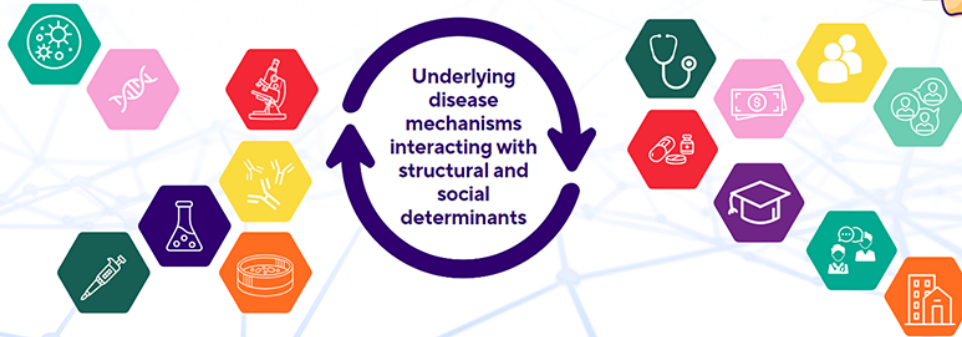




19TH ANNUAL CHILD HEALTH RESEARCH DAYS
Outcomes in Child Health



October 25 + 26, 2023 | RBC Convention Centre, Winnipeg, Manitoba

Abstract Submission Form

CHR D 2023: Abstract Submission Form

Submitter Name

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Presenter Name

Olubukola Olatosi

Presenter Status

PhD Student

Research Category

Community Health / Policy

Role in the project

Design
Analyze Data
Write Abstract
Conducted focus group interviews.

Title

A qualitative study of healthcare providers' views on early childhood caries and the Canadian caries risk assessment tool for preschoolers in Indigenous communities.

Background

Indigenous children in Canada suffer from high burden of dental caries due to complex interplay of social determinants of health

Objective

This study explored the views of non-dental primary care providers on early childhood caries (ECC) and the benefits of integrating the Canadian caries risk assessment (CRA) tool into primary care of First Nations and Métis children in Manitoba.

Methods

Twenty-six non-dental primary healthcare providers caring for Indigenous children aged < 6 years were purposefully selected from four Indigenous communities in Winnipeg, Selkirk and Pine Falls, Manitoba. A qualitative constructivist grounded theory method was used in this study. Data was generated through four focus groups and two in-depth key informant interviews between April and June 2023. Interviews were audio-recorded, data was transcribed verbatim and analyzed with NVivo software

Results

The participants consisted of 21 nurses, 3 nurse practitioners, 1 dietician, and 1 physician with mean age (42 years), mean years of practice (15 years). Thematic analysis revealed four major themes on ECC in

Indigenous communities: Education (low awareness, normalization of ECC); access to dental services (limited staff capacity, funding); low-income (food insecurity, competing priorities); caregiver attitude (defensive, personal beliefs, bad experiences). Seven themes were generated on the benefits of integrating the Canadian CRA tool into primary care: improved access to oral care, aid oral healthcare promotion, reduced risk for surgery, support holistic care, improved access to dental funds, factual and evidence-based, improved quality of life. Participants were positively inclined to receive training on ECC, fluoride application and the use of the CRA tool.

Conclusion

Non-dental primary care providers agree that though ECC is endemic in Indigenous communities, it can be prevented by increasing awareness on preventive and access to preventive dental care. The Canadian CRA tool has great benefits, which can help improve the oral health of Indigenous children in Manitoba.

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