

Terrebonne, January 16th, 2023

Deployment of the oral health care program

Dear Madam:

Dear Sir:

Over the next few weeks, the Québec daily oral health and mouth care program will be progressively deployed in all of our CHSLDs. The Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux's oral health care and daily mouth care model is part of a collaborative and interdisciplinary approach in which each professional involved, namely, the nurse, nursing assistant, personal support worker, dental hygienist, dentist, denturist and physician, contribute as a team to maintaining the oral health of our residents.

Our nurses will be the frontline workers in assessing oral health and our personal support workers will play a central role in delivering daily mouth care to our residents. The dental hygienist, dentist and denturist will support our care teams by offering a range of preventive and curative oral health care, including making and repairing removable dental prostheses. These services will be rendered on site with the use of portable equipment. The integration of these oral health care professionals in the continuum of care in our CHSLDs will promote information sharing and knowledge transfer in our teams, but also the implementation of oral health care adapted to our residents' health status and living environment. Our staff will also receive specific training on the role expected of them under this program.

Our facilities will provide our employees with the material required to deliver oral care to our residents (toothbrush, toothpaste, prosthetic cleansers, etc.). The program will also offer regular preventive oral health care free of charge to all residents by an accredited dental hygienist on site at the CHSLD. The costs for care provided by a dentist or denturist will be covered in part by the residents based on their percentage of special needs. To this end, the resident or their legal representative must sign a consent form confirming that the treatment plan has been accepted.

The care offered under this interdisciplinary program seeks to ensure the comfort and wellbeing of our residents, specifically, the absence of pain or untreated oral disease, good mouth hygiene and proper masticatory function.

Best regards,



David Major
Senior Nursing Advisor