



# 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.

## **American Academy of Developmental Medicine and Dentistry**

<http://www.aadmd.org>

3 Forester Ave., #22

Warwick, NY 10990

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.

## **American Dental Association (ADA)**

<http://www.ada.org>

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**

<https://www.mouthhealthy.org/all-topics-a-z/patients-with-special-needs>

## **CareCure Forum**

<http://sci.rutgers.edu/>

CareCure is a spinal cord injury forum and has various postings on dry mouth and dental issues.

### **Dental Lifeline Network**

<https://dentallifeline.org>

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.

### **Exceptional Parent**

<http://www.eparent.com>

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

### **“Maintaining Oral Health After Spinal Cord Injury” article. *Spinal Cord Injury***

[http://sci.washington.edu/info/newsletters/articles/10\\_spr\\_oral\\_health.asp](http://sci.washington.edu/info/newsletters/articles/10_spr_oral_health.asp)

*Update*. Spring 2010: Vol. 19, Number 1. University of Washington School of Medicine.

### **National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR)**

#### **National Oral Health Information Clearinghouse**

[www.nidcr.nih.gov](http://www.nidcr.nih.gov)

<https://catalog.nidcr.nih.gov/OrderPublications/#12>

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.

### **National Multiple Sclerosis Society: Dental Health**

[www.nationalmssociety.org](http://www.nationalmssociety.org)

<http://www.nationalmssociety.org/NationalMSSociety/media/MSNationalFiles/Brochures/Brochure-Dental-Health.pdf>

### **New Mobility magazine**

<http://newmobility.com/>

**“Medication, Dry Mouth and Tooth Decay”** article. *New Mobility*, Sept.2013 pp.46-47.

<http://newmobility.com/2013/09/sci-medication-dry-mouth-and-tooth-decay/>

### **Remote Area Medical**

[www.ramusa.org](http://www.ramusa.org)

2200 Stock Creek Blvd

Rockford, TN 37853

Phone: 865-579-1530

Email: [info@ramusa.org](mailto:info@ramusa.org)

Remote Area Medical (RAM) is a major nonprofit provider of mobile medical clinics. Their mission is to prevent pain and alleviate suffering by providing free, quality

healthcare to those in need. They do this by delivering free dental, vision, and medical services to underserved and uninsured individuals.

### **Special Care Advocates in Dentistry (SAID)**

<http://saiddent.org/>

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.

### **Special Care Dentistry Association (SCDA)**

<https://www.scdaonline.org/>

2800 W. Higgins Rd., Suite 440

Hoffman Estates, IL 60669

Phone: 312-527-6764

E-mail: [scda@scdaonline.org](mailto:scda@scdaonline.org)

SCDA provides educational opportunities and information exchange for oral health care professionals who treat patients with special needs.

### **Special Olympics**

[http://www.specialolympics.org/Sections/What\\_We\\_Do/Healthy\\_Athletes/Health\\_Programs.aspx?source=QL](http://www.specialolympics.org/Sections/What_We_Do/Healthy_Athletes/Health_Programs.aspx?source=QL)

[http://resources.specialolympics.org/Topics/Healthy\\_Athletes/Disciplines/Special\\_Smile.s.aspx](http://resources.specialolympics.org/Topics/Healthy_Athletes/Disciplines/Special_Smile.s.aspx)

offers a Healthy Athletes program with health screenings in seven areas including dental health “Special Smiles”.

Phone: 202- 824-0308

### **Special Olympics: A Caregiver’s Guide to Good Oral Health for Persons with Special Needs**

[http://media.specialolympics.org/soi/files/healthy-athletes/Special%20Smiles\\_Good\\_Oral\\_Health\\_Guide.pdf](http://media.specialolympics.org/soi/files/healthy-athletes/Special%20Smiles_Good_Oral_Health_Guide.pdf)

### **University of Florida Paul Burtner College of Dentistry: Providing Dental Care**

<http://paul-burtner.dental.ufl.edu/oral-health-care-for-persons-with-disabilities/>

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.

### **University of the Pacific School of Dentistry: Pacific Center for Equity in Oral Health Care (formerly Pacific Center for Special Care)**

<https://dental.pacific.edu/dental/faculty-and-research/research-facilities/pc>

Pacific Center for Special Care

University of the Pacific

Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry

155 Fifth Street

San Francisco, CA 94103

Phone: 415-929-6400

Email: [pacificcenter@pacific.edu](mailto:pacificcenter@pacific.edu)

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.

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This publication is supported by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$10,000,000 with 100 percent funding by ACL/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by ACL/HHS, or the U.S. Government.