

FDI Smile Award 2016

Innovation

Palestinian Dental Association

Project Goal

To prevent the onset of early childhood caries by integrating oral health messages into general health messages, leveraging prenatal and child vaccination programmes.

Overview

Pregnant women were recruited to the project during visits to public Maternal and Child Healthcare Centers (MCHCs). The intervention stage will leverage the three-year postnatal vaccination programme offered at MCHCs to increase mothers' oral health literacy through bi-annual Motivational Interviewing and Anticipatory Guidance sessions. The project team will also apply fluoride varnish to the children's teeth bi-annually during the three years of the project.

Outcomes

The primary outcome measure of the project will be child dental caries incidence and increment. Secondary measures include mothers' oral health knowledge, self-care, self-efficacy and dental service utilisation.

