

## United Nations 3<sup>rd</sup> High-level Meeting on NCDs – Side Event on Oral Health

Accelerating progress on prevention and control of NCDs and Oral Health | 28 September 2018  
Hosted by NYU College of Dentistry & NYU College of Global Public Health

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### Context

In September 2018, the United Nations General Assembly will convene the 3<sup>rd</sup> High-level Meeting on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Purpose of this meeting is to undertake a comprehensive review of the global and national progress to prevent and reduce early morbidity and mortality from heart and lung diseases, cancers and diabetes (see <http://www.who.int/ncds/governance/third-un-meeting/en/>).

During the first High-level Summit on NCDs convened in New York in 2011, New York University (NYU) hosted a side-event on oral health, co-sponsored by the governments of Tanzania, Sweden and Australia. The event was attended by about 150 delegates of member states, NYU officials and other stakeholders such as the FDI World Dental Federation and the International Association for Dental Research.

Since then the international discourse and action around prevention and control of NCDs has advanced, though not at the required pace to meet the ambitious targets outlined in the Political Declaration on NCDs (2011) and the WHO Global Action Plan on NCDs (2013). Both documents recognize oral diseases, albeit briefly and without much detail.

The Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Studies have confirmed that untreated tooth decay is the most common disease of mankind and three oral diseases rank among the ten most frequent health conditions worldwide. More than 3.5 billion people suffer from oral diseases and related psychological, social and/or economic consequences.

### Objectives

The NYU College of Dentistry is the only World Health Organization Collaborating Center on oral health in the Americas, aiming to foster policy dialogue and the translation of evidence into practice. In continuation of previous engagement in the global NCD context the college will organize a side-event on oral health on the occasion of the 3<sup>rd</sup> UN High-level meeting on the prevention and control of NCDs. The event will be co-hosted by NYU's College of Global Public Health, thereby leveraging their extensive global network and NCD expertise. Both colleges are committed to enhancing the global research, policy, training and implementation agenda building on the close relationships between oral health and NCDs.

The objectives of the side-event are to:

1. Provide a snapshot of the burden and impact of oral diseases and challenges related to addressing them, particularly in low- and middle-income countries (LMIC);
2. Highlight evidence and pathways towards prevention of oral diseases integrated with NCDs and aligned with SDGs, including innovative country experiences and “best buy” interventions;
3. Present key aspects of an investment case for oral health, emphasizing the need to focus on simple preventive interventions in order to address the disease burden in LMIC; and
4. To garner support and momentum towards integration of oral health in all policies and health systems by providing arguments and evidence for advocacy, policy and action.

Selected aspects may be illustrated by examples from co-sponsoring member states (TBC).

### Target audience

The content and framing of the event focuses on three target audiences: 1) high-level political representatives of UN/WHO member states and other key global oral health and NCD stakeholders, 2) technical officers in charge of oral health, NCDs, health promotion or related areas, 3) interested organizations, academics, experts, corporate sector, stakeholders and advocates in oral health and NCDs, child and adolescent health or related areas.

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### Content and format

The event will be opened by a prominent keynote speaker to set the political scene for NCDs and oral health in a global development context (WHO ADG Dr Svetlana Akselrod). A series of brief expert inputs will highlight the multiple public health challenges and possible responses to address NCDs and oral diseases. First details of a new investment case for global oral health will be shared and illustrated with country examples in order to advocate for realistic, evidence-based and integrated policy and health system responses to oral diseases in the context of NCDs. A moderated closing panel discussion will focus on the roles of different stakeholders in the context of social and commercial determinants of health.

An evening reception will facilitate networking and interactions as well as provide media opportunities for interviews.

### Tentative venue and logistics

The event will be hosted at:

NYU INSTITUTE FOR STUDY OF THE ANCIENT WORLDS

15E 84<sup>th</sup> ST (BETWEEN 5<sup>th</sup> – MADISON AVE)

NEW YORK, NY 10028

<http://isaw.nyu.edu/about/contact-us>

13:00-14:00 Light lunch/registration/security clearing

14:00-17:45 Proceedings (see agenda)

17:45-19:00 Reception

A website for registration (free of charge) is available, also providing additional information and regular updates about the event:

[www.dental.nyu.edu/oralhealthsideevent](http://www.dental.nyu.edu/oralhealthsideevent)

### Key contacts

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### Tentative agenda (Version 30 August 2018)

13:00-14:00	<b>Registration and security clearing Networking, snack lunch and drinks</b>	
14:00-14:30	<b>Opening &amp; Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Welcome, introductions and political context</li><li>Brief opening remarks by key stakeholders (WHO, supporting member state delegations, NYU)</li></ul>	Moderator
14:30-14:50	<b>Keynote: NCDs, oral health and global development</b> Dr Svetlana Axelrod, WHO Assistant Director-General (Geneva)	Moderator Axelrod
14:50-15:30	<b>Oral health and NCDs – shared global public health challenges</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Global burden &amp; economic impact of oral diseases</li><li>Oral diseases – markers of global inequalities</li><li>Sugar as a special risk factor for tooth decay and NCDs</li></ul>	Moderator TBC
15:30-16:00	<b>Group photo, networking &amp; health break</b>	
16:00-16:45	<b>Towards integrated responses to NCDs &amp; oral disease</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A global investment case for oral health</li><li>Policy options to address common risk factors</li><li>Selected country experiences &amp; lessons learnt</li></ul>	Moderator TBC
16:45-17:30	<b>Health and oral health in all policies – who does what?</b> Moderated high-level panel discussion on stakeholder roles with plenary interaction	Moderator TBC
17:30-17:45	<b>Summary, final reflections &amp; way forward</b>	Moderator TBC
17:45-19:00	<b>Reception &amp; refreshments / Press &amp; media opportunities</b>	

Agenda will be reviewed and updated over the coming weeks in order to accommodate co-sponsoring member states and to allocate speaking slots as required.