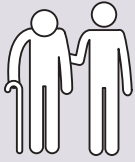




THE ORAL HEALTH OF ADULTS RESIDING IN NEBRASKA'S ASSISTED-LIVING AND LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES

FACILITY TYPES:



Assisted-living (AL) facility: A facility that provides shelter, food and non-nursing care to residents because of age, illness or physical disability



Long-term care (LTC) facility: A facility where nursing care or related services are provided to residents of the facility

WHO TOOK PART IN THE SURVEY

544 Residents aged 35-104 years (mean=81)

13 Assisted-living facilities

17 Long-term care facilities

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Expand programs that provide educational and preventative dental services at AL and LTC facilities, especially in rural counties.
- Develop programs that provide corrective and emergency dental services at AL and LTC facilities, especially in rural counties.
- Provide enhanced training to AL and LTC staff about the importance of daily oral hygiene services.
- Create a referral system between AL and LTC facilities and local health departments for residents with urgent dental needs.
- Consider the use of silver diamine fluoride treatment by public health hygienists for patients with transportation barriers.

ORAL HEALTH STATUS

PEOPLE WITH FEWER THAN 20 TEETH HAVE TROUBLE EATING HEALTHY FOOD

56% The percentage of residents with severe tooth loss

28% The percentage of residents with no natural teeth

TOOTH DECAY AND GUM DISEASE CAN CAUSE PAIN AND LIFE-THREATENING INFECTIONS

47% The percentage of residents with teeth who have untreated decay

31% The percentage of residents with teeth who have severe gum (periodontal) disease

RESIDENTS IN RURAL COUNTIES ARE MORE LIKELY TO NEED DENTAL CARE



52% of rural residents need restorative dental care compared to **37%** of urban residents



40% of rural residents need periodontal (gum) care compared to **15%** of urban residents

MANY LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY RESIDENTS HAVE NO DENTAL INSURANCE COVERAGE

Medicare does not cover most dental care and Medicaid only covers a limited number of dental services

Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services

Office of Oral Health and Dentistry

www.dhhs.ne.gov/dental

NEBRASKA
Good Life. Great Mission.
DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



JULY 2020

DATA SOURCE: NEBRASKA ORAL HEALTH SURVEY OF LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES, 2019