



THE NETWORK
TOWARDS UNITY FOR HEALTH



Facultad de Medicina



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VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

"PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: A PATH
TOWARDS SOCIAL JUSTICE"

SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITY BASED
RESPONSES TO COVID-19

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TUFH 2020 Abstracts

Title	Smile bright with habits right - every child deserves it
Type	TUFH Oral Presentation <i>Working with Underserved Populations towards Community Empowerment</i>
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Abstract N^o	TUFH82
Content	<p>Background: School remains an excellent setting to reach out over 1 billion children worldwide, their family and community members as well (WHO 2003). Hence, WHO proposed Health Promoting School (HPS) approach to provide ample opportunity for schools to initiate Oral Health Promotion (OHP) and enhance oral health of children.</p> <p>Methodology: Baseline data on adherence of school to Oral health within components of HPS was obtained, using WHO framework. Data on oral health awareness and attitude towards oral health of teaching and admin staff of the school respectively was obtained. With this circumstantial information, School Oral Health Promotion Programme (SOHPP) was planned to incorporate interventions at,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Macro level—"School based Oral health Policy Document" was developed • Meso level—Capacity building for teachers to facilitate and monitor healthy oral habits • Process level—Oral health education with edutainment concept and Comprehensive Oral Health Care (COHC) for children <p>Results: Developing Oral Health Policy for school, eventually resulted in a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), between the school and Dental institution which enabled OHP initiatives including integrating topics on Oral health within curriculum. MoU resulted in providing COHC with no unmet dental needs by the end of 1st phase of project. Teachers functioned as "change agents" with skills to identify "clean mouth" and reinforce healthy habits.</p> <p>Conclusion: The observable metamorphosis from initial resistance to oral health examination, to adopting healthy oral habits by the students and instilling healthy oral behavior by teachers and positive attitude of the Administrators, reveals the promising approach of SOHPP which has spread healthy smiles that every child deserves.</p>