

ANONYMOUS 17251 - New submission from Early Years Strategy - Public Submissions

Including oral health prevention and treatment in the early years strategy will address a disease which has significant presence in almost 1 in 2 children. Dental conditions are the second most common cause of preventable hospitalisations in Australia and more needs to be done in terms of increasing awareness in the early years. Engaging the GP and maternal child health workforce from prior to the age of 1 for the child will help with provision of much needed dental education and awareness and help with prevention of dental caries. Reimbursement of fluoride varnish application by the medical team will also reduce caries incidence. Further funding to promote prevention in the public dental system as well as information dissemination will help address the cause of the disease rather than treating the disease burden later.