

Focus Day 2007 - Pedodontics and functional impairment

The aim of this year's Focus Day is to rouse interest in the oral health and dental care of children and youths with functional impairment and chronic illness, to discuss their needs for prophylactic measures and different treatment strategies and to consider what resources may be needed to promote good oral health in these young patients today and in the future. All interested dental care professionals - nurses, dentists and dental hygienists - in general as well as specialized dental care are warmly invited to attend Focus Day 2007 at the Mun-H-Center on Thursday, December 6!

The day will commence with Göran Dahllöf, who will summarize our current views on oral health in the diseased and functionally impaired. Gunilla Klingberg will take up the question of equality in the care of functionally impaired youths. My Blomqvist and Pia Dornérus will discuss neuropsychiatric diagnoses, their implications for dental care and for our care of patients, as well as different factors that may influence the development and progression of periodontal diseases.

Svante Twetman will present what we currently know about the prevention of diseases of the mouth and teeth in the diseased and functionally impaired. Monica Barr-Agholme and Lotta Sjögren will talk about oral motor treatment and Christina Stecksén-Blicks will describe highly specialized dental care for children and youths with functional impairment and chronic illness.



Nordic Orofacial Test - Screening, NOT-S



NOT-S is a screening instrument that may be used to identify orofacial dysfunction in children aged 3 and older, in youths and in adults. The screening comprises a structured interview and a clinical exam and may be conducted by a variety of professional groups in dental and health care. NOT-S consists of an illustrated manual and a screening form that are translated to all Nordic languages as well as English. The illustrated manual costs 200 SKR and may be ordered via the Mun-H-Center's homepage. The screening form is available for download from our homepage, which also provides information on current NOT-S courses to be held in the Nordic countries.

NOT-S was developed in a joint Nordic project under the auspices of the Nordic Society for Disability and Oral Health (NFH). The work was conducted by a working group consisting of the dentists Dr. Merete Bakke, Copenhagen, and Dr. Birgitta Begendahl, Jönköping, and the speech therapists Anita McAllister, Linköping, Lotta Sjögren, Göteborg and Pamela Åsten, Oslo. The working group has also conducted a study evaluating the validity and reliability of the NOT-S. (Bakke et al., 2007). Proceeds from the sale of the NOT-S manual go to the NFH for the development of a common Nordic test to enhance the clinical assessment of orofacial function. A normative study of the NOT-S in children aged 3-6 was conducted as part of a masters thesis at the Dept of Speech Therapy at Linköping University (www.ep.liu.se).

Reference: Bakke M, Bergendal B, McAllister A, Sjögren L, Åsten P. Development and evaluation of a comprehensive screening for orofacial dysfunction. *Swed Dent J* 2007;31:75-84.

Oral health and functional impairment

Oral Health and Functional Impairment is an updated and expanded version of the booklet *Oral Disease and Handicap* from 1995. This booklet, prepared and compiled by hospital dentists from the Västra Götaland region, aims to provide a brief guide to daily clinical practice, outlining the background, odontological aspects and recommendations for treatment strategies.

The booklet (in Swedish) is available for purchase at the Mun-H-Center homepage, www.mun-h-center.se

