

Oral Health and Access to Dental Care for People with Autism Spectrum and I/DD

“Dental care now represents the number one health care issue among people with neurodevelopmental disorders.”

Dr. Steve Perlman, Global Clinical Director for US Special Olympics, Special Smiles Program

Topic	Content	Source
Dental Tool Kit and video	Help families and caregivers find the right dentist, teach families and caregivers how to effectively prepare for a visit to the dentist, decrease anxiety about going to the dentist, provide information for families to help begin a lifetime of good oral care, provide dental professionals with tips about how to make the experience more successful for their patients with autism. Forms for dental apt, visual schedule to help the child understand the steps involved in a routine dentist appointment and information about oral care at home	Autism Speaks https://www.autismspeaks.org/tool-kit/dental-tool-kit
Finding the Right Dental Home for Your Child or Youth with Special Needs checklist	Checklist with questions to discuss with the dental practice, including insurance, paperwork, scheduling, accessibility, accommodations, and supports.	NC Division of Public Health, Oral Health Section https://www.dph.ncdhhs.gov/wch/doc/families/DentalHomeChecklist-102119-WEB.pdf https://www.ncpublichealth.com/wch/doc/families/LLTS-DentalHomeChecklist-WebUnprotected-SPA.pdf (Spanish)
Special Care Dentistry Association	Educational Fact Sheets: oral care for children with autism and down syndrome. English and Spanish	Special Care Dentistry Association https://www.scdaonline.org/educational-fact-sheets
Online course on oral health and people with special needs	16 learning modules. Each learning module contains a short description, learning objects, presentation and a self-assessment quiz. Periodic webinars	Special Care Dentistry Association https://www.scdaonline.org/scda-online-course

(oriented to dental professionals)		
Philadelphia Coordinated Health Care Oral Health webcast/ video	Recognize signs of poor oral health, oral hygiene strategies, tips for preventing tooth decay, stages of gum disease, planning for dental visits	Philadelphia Coordinated Health Care https://www.pchc.org/images/Education/Online-Trainings/Provider-Staff/Oral_Hygiene/html5.html
Access Dental Care	Non-profit, mobile, onsite provider committed to serving residents in retirement communities, those with intellectual and developmental disabilities in nursing home facilities and group homes, and residents living in the community at-large.	https://www.accessdentalcare.org
Dentably	Autism and Dental Care – A Guide for Their Oral Treatment	https://livingautism.com/autism-and-dental-care-a-guide-for-their-oral-treatment/