

Welcome to the STOP Toolkit



Dear Smile Train Partner,

Welcome to Smile Train's Oral Health Through Prevention (STOP) Toolkit!

This resource is designed to help you promote education and awareness of optimal oral health for children with clefts at your center.

Children with clefts face unique challenges in maintaining good oral health, which is crucial for their overall development. Oral diseases like caries and gum disease can pose significant challenges for children with clefts and their families. Prevention is the most effective approach to mitigating these issues and the costs related to them. We are thrilled to introduce this toolkit as a low-cost, practical resource that can significantly impact your patients' health and quality of life.

This toolkit represents the collaborative efforts of oral health professionals, educators, and caregivers, including you. We firmly believe in the power of our partnership to positively impact the lives of children with cleft lip and palate. Together, we aim to ensure healthier smiles and brighter futures for our global cleft community.

Sincerely,

Smile Train's Oral Health Through Prevention (STOP) Team





The STOP Toolkit comprises several critical resources for addressing oral health in children with cleft lip and palate, including educational and awareness materials designed for partners, patients, and caregivers.

I. RESOURCES FOR PARTNERS:

These resources can be printed in high resolution and displayed in your dental office to ensure quick reference and efficient communication of oral health prevention methods.



A) How to Brush Your Teeth Poster

Show your patients how to brush their teeth correctly! Effective brushing removes plaque, prevents cavities, and reduces the risk of gum disease. Proper technique ensures that all dental surfaces are cleaned thoroughly, promoting healthier gums and fresher breath. Moreover, regular tooth brushing establishes a solid foundation for lifelong oral hygiene habits, significantly contributing to overall well-being. Use this poster to encourage your patients to use the proper technique!



B) “Lift the Lip” Poster

The “Lift the Lip” (LTL) technique is a non-invasive, straightforward procedure promoting a family-based approach to oral health and preventive care that can be easily performed in any healthcare setting and at home. The goal is to assess the front teeth and identify any signs of caries, since these teeth are more likely to have Early Childhood Caries (ECC), gum disease, or other abnormalities. Some of the signs include white, brown, or black spots, broken teeth, bleeding gums, dental plaque, and abnormal tooth shapes or surfaces. Use this technique to encourage parents to be aware of any abnormal change in their child’s teeth and to know when to look for professional support.



C) Signs of Early Childhood Caries Poster

Primarily designed to educate parents, caregivers, healthcare professionals, and primary healthcare providers, the MAAC Charts were designed to offer guidance on recognizing early signs of Early Childhood Caries (ECC) in children with clefts. They feature a collage of pictures organized by incisors and canines, providing a clear and practical visual aid for identifying these conditions. Use it to encourage your patients to understand an ECC diagnosis.

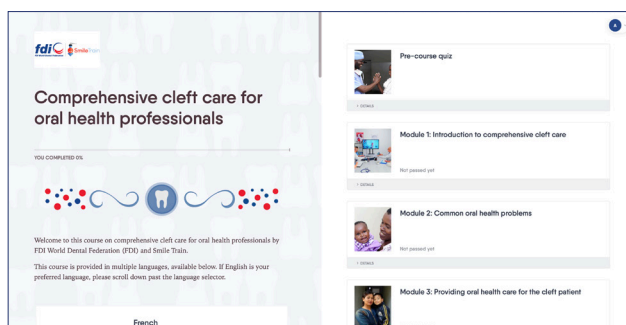
An early ECC diagnosis can stop the disease before it escalates. Here is how it is classified on the chart:

MILD: The first two rows show enamel with various non-cavitated lesions or EH/ED manifesting as diffuse patches or demarcated opacities. It also contains images of very small cavitated lesions on the enamel. These images depict the earliest changes in the ECC of the enamel, which was soon after its eruption into the oral cavity.

MODERATE: If the mild disease is left untreated, it progresses to the moderate stage of the disease with increased cavitation and spreads to a larger area of the tooth enamel. Visual images make it easier for stakeholders to understand the spread of a disease.

SEVERE: The last two rows of images show severe damage to the teeth if left untreated, resulting in root stumps. Almost the entire tooth crown is lost in most of the images presented here.

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D) Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) Launched for Dental health professionals

FDI World Dental Federation and Smile Train have collaborated on the Oral Health in Comprehensive Cleft Care project to develop new resources that will establish standards for oral health and integrate dental care for cleft patients. This three-hour Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) is designed to provide dental health professionals with essential information and tools for maintaining the oral health of children undergoing comprehensive cleft treatment.

Let's work together to become confident and competent clinicians capable of providing exceptional care and making a lasting difference for people with clefts. We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to enhance your skills and become a pivotal part of a global effort to improve comprehensive cleft care. Your expertise and dedication can change lives!

The MOOC is available in English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish.

Scan below or click here to access: [English](#)

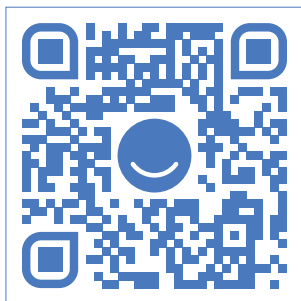




II. RESOURCES FOR PATIENTS AND CAREGIVERS:

A) Video Series On Oral Health and Cleft Care

In partnership with FDI, Smile Train has developed six oral health videos to share with our medical partners and patients in over 75 countries. These videos were created to expand this critical work by educating more providers and patients about the vital role of oral health in cleft care, helping ensure a higher standard of care and better health outcomes for cleft patients worldwide. Parents, caregivers, and patients can watch these videos in the waiting room during their visits to the cleft center; you can also share them through your program's social media platforms such as YouTube, Instagram, Facebook, WhatsApp, etc.



Scan the QR code to access the videos and learn more.

The video series includes:

1. [Importance of oral health.](#)
2. [Most common oral diseases in children with cleft lip and palate.](#)
3. [Prevention of oral diseases.](#)
4. [“Lift the Lip”.](#)
5. [What to expect at the dental office.](#)
6. [Appliance hygiene.](#)

Available in English, Bahasa, Chinese, Arabic, Spanish, French, Hindi, and Portuguese.



B) My STOP Calendar

One of the essential resources you'll discover is a practical calendar designed to help patients stay on top of their oral health care routine and maintain good oral hygiene practices. This tool is invaluable in ensuring patients adhere to their care plans and achieve optimal oral health outcomes. You can print the STOP Calendar for your patients and help them register their daily tooth brushing. We recommend encouraging them to record at least two brushing sessions each day throughout the month. At the end of the month, they can bring you the completed calendar and be recognized as Oral Health Champions, celebrating their commitment to maintaining excellent oral hygiene. This simple yet effective tool can make a significant difference in fostering lifelong healthy habits in your patients.



C) Smile Train Oral Health Passport

This is designed to be your patients' guide and record keeper for all things dental care related. Inside, they'll find a checklist of essential oral health needs and helpful tips to help track dental visits and treatments. To ensure your patients' oral health is always on the right track, we invite you to hand this resource to their caregivers and encourage them to read and check off all the incredible tips we provide.