



IADR

International Association
for Dental Research

WHO EB I50 - IADR statement on Item 7

IADR statement on Item 7 Political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases (Oral health, EB I50/7)

(c) Draft global strategy on oral health

The International Association for Dental Research (IADR) drives dental, oral and craniofacial research for health and well-being worldwide and therefore we applaud the approach to the Draft Global Strategy on Oral Health.

IADR is pleased that the draft strategy is firmly based on research findings as described in paragraphs 3 through 20. The vision and goal of the strategy as well as the six guiding principles and six strategic objectives provide a road map for Member States to improve oral health for their populations based on our current knowledge.

The IADR is strongly supportive of the strategy but asks for the following considerations:

- Paragraph 12 correctly notes human papillomavirus (HPV) as a risk factor for oropharyngeal cancers, yet there is no further mention of a strategy to mitigate this risk factor. A vaccination strategy for girls *and* boys within the global oral health strategy will reduce oropharyngeal cancers and also compliment the global strategy to accelerate the elimination of cervical cancer (Annex 5).
- Strategic Objective 6 calls for Member States to create and continuously update needs-specific research that is focused on the public health aspects of oral health. IADR agrees with this objective and would broaden it to include basic research into the biologic mechanisms of oral diseases to design more effective preventive interventions and treatments, as well as the associations between oral diseases and other diseases.
- Finally, the oral health strategy must be firmly integrated into the implementation of the global action plan for NCD prevention and control with efforts to advance primary health care and UHC.

Thank you.

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