

The Multi-Stakeholder Hearing as part of the preparatory process for the 2026 High-level meeting on HIV/AIDS

Panel 2: Delivering Equitable, People-Centered and Stigma-free Services for All Across the HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care Continuum

The International Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research and the FDI World Dental Federation welcome the focus on equitable, people-centered, and stigma-free HIV services.

Oral health is one of the highest unmet needs of people living with HIV. Untreated oral conditions are highly prevalent and can cause pain, infection, tooth loss, directly affecting nutrition, treatment adherence, social comfort, and quality of life. Addressing oral health is therefore essential to delivering equitable, dignified, person-centered care across the HIV continuum.

Consistent with the WHO Global Oral Health Action Plan, oral health should be embedded within primary health care and linked with HIV services. The World Workshops on Oral Health in HIV and AIDS further underscores the importance of education to reduce stigma and promote inclusive care.

Strengthening community-based delivery, challenging misconceptions, and providing clear, evidence-based information, supported by implementation research, will be critical to reaching populations left behind.

Within the political declaration, we call on Member States to:

- Invest to ensure the quality and quantity of health workforce required for equitable stigma-free HIV prevention, early detection, and treatment. This workforce should be inclusive of dental professionals.

- Integrate oral health into HIV and primary health care services
- Strengthen stigma-free, inclusive care through education and policy
- Support community-based and evidence-informed service delivery.

IADR and FDI stand ready to support integrated, person-centered HIV responses through research, workforce engagement, and collaboration.

Thank you.

Duration: 1 min 45 secs.
219 words