Roles of educational institutions in building high-performing oral health promotion systems

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Effectiveness of health promotion practice results in individuals and communities being able to exercise control over their health for better decision-making, which leads to improving behaviors related to oral health. It requires high-performing health promotion systems that relies on stable basic infrastructure such as finance, workforce, resources, information systems and organizational and inter-sectorial teams and partnerships. After WHO evaluation of health systems in in the region of Saudi Arabia and other countries, it was recommended that governments need to effectively bridge gaps in capacity for promoting health. To do so educational institutions need to intensify efforts required to build oral health promotion workforce through equipping all practitioners with adequate basic skills in monitoring and evaluating health promotion policies and programs; and to build a critical mass of technical specialists in oral health promotion.

This presentation will discuss the strategies taken by the college of Dentistry / King Saud University / Riyadh, implemented to help building basis for strengthening practice, sustainable, adequate health promotion systems infrastructure and capacity through graduating competent Saudi dentists armed with knowledge, skills, and attitudes that are prerequisite for satisfactory attainment of Competencies in oral health promotion and education.

Biography

Nadiah Wasaf Ibrahim AlNahhas is a Consultant in Dental Public Health, King Saud University, College of Dentistry, Periodontology and Community Department, received her Bachelor of Dental Surgery degree from College of Dentistry - Cairo University, Egypt. Master of Public Health from the College of Dentistry, King Saud University, Riyadh Saudi Arabia 1998. Worked as Course director for three courses in Dental Assistant Diploma Program, College of Dentistry, King Saud University, Riyadh Saudi Arabia since 2007 till 2012. Course director and co-course director in preventive and public health courses at College of Dentistry, King Saud University, Riyadh Saudi Arabia, since 1998 until present.

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