

Seven Ways HyLife®, Oral Health Alliance Can Improve the Health of Vulnerable Adults

- 1. Reduce Incidence of Pneumonia - How many pneumonia cases does your community have annually?**
 - Approximately one in 10 cases of death from pneumonia in elderly residents may be prevented by improving oral hygiene.
 - Cost savings attributed to decreased NH-acquired pneumonia alone, through improved oral hygiene, had been estimated to be more than \$800 million annually.
- 2. Reduce Expenses Related to Diabetes Care - How many residents in your community have diabetes?**
 - A recent study by an insurance company shows that their subscribers with diabetes who have professional dental hygiene services save nearly \$2,000 a year per person in down line medical costs.
- 3. Reduce Systemic Diseases and Improve Quality of Life - How many residents would you like to see improve their quality of life (QoL) and cognitive function?**
 - While resources may be limited in care communities, incorporating oral care in daily routine practice helps to reduce systemic diseases and to promote overall quality of life (QoL) in residents.
 - Activities of daily living and cognitive functions showed a tendency to improve with oral care.
- 4. Reduce the Burden of Providing Oral Care - How would your team like assistance with oral care procedures?**
 - 89% of nursing home workers considered oral health care to be an important part of good nursing.
 - Their answers to a survey indicated problems, however, when it came to its implementation and knowledge.
- 5. Reduce Dental Disease - How many emergency dental visits do your residents require annually?**
 - Controlling bacteria in the mouth leads to less tooth decay and gum disease. Less disease means fewer costs for dental treatment.
- 6. Improve Nutrition - How many of your residents have difficulty eating or are rejecting foods they previously enjoyed?**
 - Oral Care improves the ability to taste and enjoy food. These improvements can assist in improving the desire and ability to eat and improve nutrition.
- 7. Improve Social Interaction - How many of your residents would you like to see be more involved in facility activities and/or have more interaction with other residents?**
 - Thorough removal of plaque and food particles, decreases bad breath and increases social interaction. These things also have the ability to improve QoL.



HyLife® Oral Health Alliance

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