

## Oral Health/Access to Dental Care: Problem Analysis

<p><b>Social/Economic/Policy Level</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p><b>Economic Issues</b> Poverty Budget Constraints - lack of program funding for public health prevention efforts in oral health</p> </div>		<p><b>Systems/Services</b> Lack of mandate for adequate Medicaid coverage &amp; adequate reimbursement rates Limited private insurance options Lack of mandated primary care provider training in oral health</p>		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>Policy</b> Lack of fluoridation in water systems</p> </div>		
<p><b>Family/Community/Institutional Level</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p><b>Dental Insurance</b> High cost Unavailable Inadequate provider reimbursement</p> </div>		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p><b>Provider Issues</b> Lack of training of allied health providers to address oral health issues Providers do not accept Medi-Cal Lack of Specialty</p> </div>	<p><b>School Related Issues</b> Lack of school-based health centers with dental services Lack of training of allied health providers to address oral health issues Lack of fluoride &amp; sealant programs Availability of sugary snacks &amp; beverages</p>	<p><b>Community</b> Lack of Transportation Access to sugary snacks/beverages in fast food &amp; neighborhood corner Lack of local public health education about oral health issues</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>Family Issues</b> Lack education on importance of oral Health Cultural practices related to nutrition &amp; dental hygiene Do not value primary dentition Sugary snacks &amp; soda</p> </div>	
<p><b>Individual Level</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p><b>Psychological Factors</b> Will only seek professional care when in pain</p> </div>		<p><b>Behavioral Factors</b> Unmanageable behavior in dental office Substance abuse Tobacco use Poor food choices Poor oral hygiene</p>	<p><b>Knowledge</b> Lack of knowledge of impact of nutrition on oral health Lack of knowledge of the importance of oral hygiene</p>		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>Medical Factors</b> Poor nutrition Special health care needs Saliva-reducing medications Caries producing bacteria</p> </div>	
<p><b>Biological Factors</b> Family history Genetics</p>						

**Target Outcome(s):**

Poor oral health /decayed missing or filled teeth/gum disease

**Consequences:**

Pain & suffering, potential for poor nutrition, cosmetic disfigurement, lowered self-esteem, potential for chronic infection including periodontal disease, & ultimate increased treatment costs.