Transforming and Reforming Oral Health Care in Australia

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Chair, ADA Rural Oral Health Advisory Panel
Personalised ‘Find Out’ Appointment Questions

- Q1. When did you last visit a dentist and why did you go?
- Q2. Do you remember anything the dentist said about your teeth?
- Q3. How healthy do you think your teeth and gums are now?
- Q4. Do you have any painful places around your teeth or mouth?
- Q5. How do you feel about the appearance of your teeth and gums?
- Q6. Do you ever have any trouble eating?
- Q7. Have you ever had any worries or fears about going to the dentist?
- Q8. How well do you think you look after your teeth?
THE DENTAL TRUCK IS VISITING ALI CURUNG ON

EVERYBODY WELCOME - HAVE A STRONG TEETH CHECKUP

FREE TOOTHPASTE AND TOOTHPASTE
“dentists are like priests, they drive by fear and guilt”.
“The majority of the sample was prone to blaming their oral health problems on
• diet (mainly ‘eating lollies’),
• genetics (‘I’ve always had brittle teeth’) or
• fate,
while overlooking the fact that failure to prevent and treat dental disease in a timely manner led to their problems worsening, and, in some cases, becoming irreparable.

In general, they tended to blame themselves or their lifestyle rather than recognising that their ability to obtain dental care was often constrained by low income or lack of other resources”.

In contrast with those orally fit Australians, some 26% of Australians eligible to use public dental services

“quietly endure delays in obtaining care and accept minor oral health problems becoming unbearable, resulting in pain, extractions and consequent impacts on wellbeing”.

“Our mission: As a nation, to do as the National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission says in another context and “overcome the blame game” by both structurally reforming and culturally transforming dental care and oral health promotion in many positive, person and equity-centred ways, thereby significantly advancing our nation’s oral health, general health and wellbeing”.
