



English Newsletter of KDHA Provided by KDHA Newsletter Committees

Korean delegation focusing on promotion of 2019 ISDH, “See you in Seoul”



2016 International Symposium on Dental Hygiene (ISDH) successfully closed with 2,000 participants from 32 nations

“We promise to give unforgettable great memories for all participants of the 2019 ISDH in Korea.”

The International Symposium on Dental Hygiene, which is the biggest festival and the most influential dental hygiene symposium of global dental hygienists, closed in Switzerland on June 25. Korean delegation started enthusiastic promotion to attract more participants for the 2019 ISDH in Korea.

The 20th ISDH was held at the Basel Congress Center in Switzerland from June 23 to June 25, hosted by the International Federation of Dental Hygienists (IFDH) and organized by the

Switzerland Dental Hygienist Association.

Around 2,000 dental hygienists and dentistry officials from 32 nations gathered together to the symposium, for mutual exchange of information and discussion on development of dental hygienics among world-renowned speakers, dental hygienists and dental hygienics researchers.

Eighty Korean delegates consisting of the leadership of the Korean Dental Hygienists Association (President Moon Kyeong-sook, hereinafter KDHA) and its 13 city and provincial dental hygienist associations, professors of dental hygienics department and clinical practitioners attended the symposium and promoted the ‘2019 ISDH in Seoul’ to the participants and dentistry officials.

2019 ISDH PR booth drew huge popularity

KDHA operated a promotion booth throughout the symposium period to promote the ‘2019 ISDH in Korea’ by introducing the current status of domestic dental hygiene industry and the Korean culture, providing hands-on experience of wearing Korean traditional Hanbok, and playing PR video clips. Provision of promotional leaflets, lapel pins and Korean traditional cookies at the booth also drew attention from participants.

As a result, 1,000 symposium participants from 30 nations visited the KDHA PR booth over 3 days. Especially, the hands-on experience of wearing Korean traditional Hanbok in which visitors wore Korean traditional clothing and took a souvenir picture arouse foreign

participants’ curiosity and drew a lot of popularity.

“After obtaining the license in 2019, I want to visit Korea and attend the ISDH as a dental hygienist. Information and video clips provided at the booth encouraged me to attend the convention,” said a student studying at the dental hygienics department of a local university in Switzerland. A Canadian visitor, who identified himself as a professor, asked for the 2019 ISDH promotional materials saying, “I want to visit the ISDH to be held in Korea in 2019 with my students to experience various events and Korean culture.”

Meanwhile, KDHA President Moon Kyeong-sook and Vice President Kang Boo-weol focused on promotion of the

2019 ISDH in Korea by having formal and informal meetings with delegates from various nations and the IFDH leadership throughout the 2016 ISDH symposium period.

On June 19 and 22, 25, the KDHA leadership had meetings with the newly-appointed executives of the IFDH to exchange opinions over hosting the 2019 ISDH in Korea.

At the meetings, President Moon Kyeong-sook said, “Korea has experiences in hosting various symposiums of global importance and influence over the long time. I’m sure that the ISDH will be held successfully in Korea. Through discussions and mutual opinion exchanges, I hope the 2019 ISDH will reap some fruitful and meaningful results.



To this comment, new IFDH Chairman Robyn Watson replied, “Since there are a lot of dental hygienists and related universities in Korea, I believe that the infrastructure is well advanced. As the

ISDH grows in scale every year, I look forward to seeing that the 2019 ISDH produces more fruitful and influential results.”

President Moon Kyeong-sook said, “See you at the 2019 ISDH in Korea!”

On June 25, the last day of ISDH symposium, official events all came to an end with the closing ceremony at the San Francisco Hall.

The closing ceremony consisted of segments to introduce participants and major events that drew a lot of attention at the symposium, providing a chance for participants to look back on the moments of passion and inspiration.

The ceremony continued with an introductory video clip of achievements by the former IFDH Chairman JoAnn Gurenlian for the past three years, introduction of the new IFDH executives,

an address by new Chairman Robyn Watson, a sketch video clip of the 2016 ISDH, musical performance and introduction of the 2019 ISDH.

As the last speaker, KDHA President Moon Kyeong-sook, the representative of host nation for the next ISDH, gave an introduction of the 2019 ISDH in Korea.

During her speech to introduce the 2019 ISDH, President Moon said, “I am very glad to introduce the 2019 ISDH to be held in Korea at this precious time to close all the events. Republic of Korea has a 5,000-year-long history which

was praised by Tagore, the great philosopher and poet of India. The host city Seoul is a global city where the unique culture, art and the world’s best ICT technologies,” said the president.

President Moon added, “The Korean Dental Hygienists Association is making its utmost efforts to successfully host the 2019 ISDH in Korea. To make public and promote how much we are ready to host the event, the biggest number of delegation visited Basel to promote the 2019 ISDH. The KDHA will provide unforgettable special memories to all participants of the 2019 ISDH in Korea. Please look



forward to the 2019 ISDH and your participation will be appreciated.” To the president’s appeal for interest and participation of attendants, the attendants

replied with standing ovation and cheering sound to express their interest to the 2019 ISDH.

KDHA hosted the 38th symposium on August 6 and 7

2,500 members attended under the slogan of "Change and Passion, Toward the Better Future"



Korean dental hygiene industry's biggest conference was held to celebrate the 39th anniversary of establishment of the Korean Dental Hygienists Association, The 38th Symposium and Korean Dental Hygiene Exhibition (KDHEX), and the 16th Dental Hygienists' Day were held with 2,500 members at the Grand Hilton Seoul on August 6 and 7. Despite the heat wave during a vacation season, 2,500 dental hygienists from all over the nation gathered together to the event. Under the slogan of "Change and Passion, Toward the Better Future," meaning the dental hygiene industry's another leap forward, the symposium received great responses from participants by providing more various and fruitful programs than ever including academic lectures containing know-hows of experts.

At the opening ceremony to announce the event's beginning, officials from the government and the National Assembly, such as Rep. Oh Je-se, former Chairman of the National Assembly Health and Welfare Committee, Rep. Jeon Hyeon-hee and Shin

Dong-geun, former dentists, Rep. Kwon Mi-hyeok, a member of the National Assembly Health and Welfare Committee, Division Head Yang Seong-il of the Division of Health Policy at the Ministry of Health and Welfare, and the leadership of related organizations including Chairman Choi Nam-sup of the Korean Dental Association and Vice Chairman of Han Choon-hee of the Korean National Council of Women attended the event to show enhanced status of the dental hygiene industry.

Participants encouraged dental hygienists who have made great contribution to improvement of dental health of the public by providing high-quality medical services at dental clinics across the nation. National Assembly members who attended the event promised to make efforts to promote interest and rights of dental hygienists and improve dental health of the public.

Dental hygienists' role lies in prevention and management

Academic lectures were 'a hit, a sure hit'

The symposium that marks the 38th event this year provided various academic lectures in various areas including clinical practices, latest trends of dentistry, healthcare, counseling and culture, etc. Such fruitful lectures met high expectations of dental hygienists working at various fields of dental clinics, public health clinics, universities, research institutes and industrial facilities.

The followings are representative lecture titles and speakers: ▲Professor Jeong Se-hwan (College of Dentistry, Gangneung-Wonju National University) - 'Family dentist system and roles of dental hygienists' ▲President Lee Byeong-jin (Three Beans Dental Health Research Institute) - 'Dental hygienists, spread your wings with preventive dentistry services' ▲Finance Director Kim Nam-yoon (Korean Academy of Periodontology) - 'Woori Dental Clinic? Recipes for effective maintenance and management of implant cases' ▲Dental hygienist Kim Yoo-jin (Misoplant Dental Clinic) -

'How to vitalize preventative measures in clinical practices'. Lectures that highlighted roles of dental hygienists as prevention and management expert accounted for the majority.

Also, ▲Lecturer Jeong Ji-hyun (GC Korea) provided a lecture on 'preventative medical treatment system at dental clinics' and ▲Professor Kim Baek-il (Preventive Dentistry, College of Dentistry at Yonsei University) introduced the 'latest trends of preventive dentistry' to promote objective evaluation of dental diseases and approaches based on minimum invasion focusing on new technologies and techniques in the preventive dentistry.

Especially, during the practice lecture on the second day, ▲Dr. Park Jeong-hyun (Boa Dental Clinic) introduced useful scalers for clinical services and tips on how to use them, and methods to use the air flow master over two hours and provided chances for participants to experience how to use the products. Participants showed high satisfaction on the lecture.

Latest dentistry trends and technologies drew 'attention'



The majority of lectures focused on the latest trends and advanced technologies in the dentistry, which is rapidly changing, such as:

▲Dental hygienist Roh So-yoon (Smart-e Dental Clinic) - 'Understanding of characteristics of the CAD-CAM workflow and characteristics of materials for effective diagnosis and counseling.' ▲Professor Kim Young-kyun (Seoul National University Bundang Hospital) - 'Various materials used for bone grafting at dental clinics', ▲Dr. Kim Eun-seok (Wirye Seoul

Dental Hospital) - 'TOPGraft, I did this hassle again,' ▲Dr. Shin Joon-hyuk (Digital Art Dental Clinic) - 'Digital art', ▲Dr. Lee Jae Jun (Lee Jae Jun Dental Clinic/EZEKIEL Co., Ltd.) - 'MTA Generation', ▲Dr. Song Ji-hye (Star28 Dental Clinic Group) - 'Introduction of invisalign and its various clinical cases (transplant braces MTA).' These lectures provided a venue to share experiences on digital dentistry products and clinical cases, and keep up with the latest trends in dentistry.

In addition, various information

which may be utilized by dental hygienists in clinical practices were shared through lectures such as:

▲Professor Lee Boo-kyu (Asan Medical Center) - 'All about the latest treatment for temporomandibular joint dysfunction that dental hygienists must know,' ▲Dr. Kim Byeong-ho (Smile Future Orthodontic Clinic) · Dr. Yoo Sang-jin (Fos Dental Clinic) - 'Misunderstanding and truth of double-jaw surgery,' ▲Dr. Kwon Tae-hoon (Daehan Dental Safe Clinic) - 'Basic information on temporomandibular joint dysfunction and how to appl34

(Korean Dental Association) - 'Medical disputes and how to deal with them,' ▲Chairman Hong Seon-ah (Busan Metropolitan City Dental Hygienists Association) - 'Dental health insurance claims and related issues.' Participants showed enthusiastic responses to the lectures.

Besides, cultural lectures on 'Face exercises to give good impressions,' 'Seven secrets for successful counseling,' and 'Cherish this very moment', etc., drew great popularity from the participants.

28 posters were displayed and exhibited

Around the symposium venue on both days, a poster exhibition and a table clinic were held to share the dental hygiene information and promote academic achievements.

Especially, a total of 28 posters were exhibited and three teams were selected as winners of excellent poster award through voting of participants and review by the research council.

Seoul National University Bundang Hospital Team won the grand prize with their presentation on 'Survey on awareness of dental hygienists after the public health insurance change to cover teeth cleaning/scaling.' Yonsei University Dental Hygienics Team won the silver price for 'Survey on the public recognition on dental clinic treatment fields' and Dongnam Health College Dental Hygienics Team won the bronze price with 'Opinions on revision of the dental hygienist-related laws.'

Various side events including Commitment Tree and Fortune Cookies'

Participants showed great interest to various side events such as the dental hygienists' commitment tree, making

acrostic poem with dental hygienist, UCC creation of dental hygienists, and lucky draw with fortune cookies.

Especially, the dental hygienists' commitment tree was organized to renew dental hygienists' commitment and remind of their missions. Many participants left cheerful but touching messages such as 'I'll live as a proud dental hygienist forever,' 'I want to be a senior dental hygienist who can be an example of juniors,' 'I will continue to work as dental hygienist at my 60th birthday,' and 'Dental hygienists are a hit, a sure hit.'

At the exhibition of dental clinic materials and dental health products, Shinheung, Ostem Implant, EO_Clean, Hitem, B&D Life Health, Taeyoungnet, TG INC, Vericom, SangA E-clean, Philips Korea, OHC, Denbio, Hochi, Guardian Angel of Preventive Dentistry, Daehan Narae Publishing and the Korean Dental Association participated to run 33 booths. These booths had special sales and discount events and giveaway events to promote their products and materials.

Korean National Assembly started discussion on “enhancement of the legal status of dental hygienists into the medical service personnel”



Urgent need to revise the medical service act to provide more stable dental care service

National Assembly panel discussion held by Rep. Oh Je-se and KDHA on Dec. 7

Panel discussion on revision of the medical service act to enhance the legal status of dental hygienists to the medical service personnel was hosted by the Minjoo Party Rep. Oh Je-se (former Chairman of the National Assembly Health and Welfare Committee) and organized by the Korean Dental Hygienists Association (President Moon Kyeong-sook, hereinafter KDHA) at the National Assembly Members' Office Building on December 7 at 2 PM.

Dental clinic practitioners, academic experts and politicians also raised their voices together to emphasize the necessity to revise related laws to enhance the legal status of dental hygienists to the medical service personnel.

“Dental care services provided by dental hygienists are the same as medical practices provided by the medical service personnel by their nature. Still, the current laws designate dental hygienists as medical technologists. Dental hygienists works are not protected by proper laws. The medical service act must be revised so that dental hygienists can have a sense of calling and a sense of responsibility to contribute to development of the national health and medical treatment and improvement of citizens' health,” said KDHA President Moon Kyeong-sook, the organizer of the panel discussion.

The Minjoo Party Rep. Oh Je-se also showed strong commitment to revise the law in his opening remarks, saying “Medical doctors and nurses are the medical service personnel in pair. Dentists and dental hygienists need to be the medical service personnel together. I will do my best to pass the revised law within the shortest time.”

At the panel discussion, former and current Chairmen and members of the National Assembly Health and Welfare Committee attended and showed great interest in the issue. Leaders of the ruling and opposition parties also sent written congratulatory remarks to support revision of the law, expressing their understanding on the issues of current laws related to dental hygienists.

The Minjoo Party Rep. Yang Seung-jo, current Chairman of the National Assembly Health and Welfare Committee said, “The work environment where dental hygienists can work proudly will lead to dental health of the public. To realize this goal, the National Assembly Health and Welfare Committee will do its best.”

Experts stressed, “Dental hygienist-related laws need to be revised”

Professor Jeong Won-kyun of the dental Hygienics at Yonsei University Wonju College of Medicine, the keynote speaker, raised an issue with the current laws related to dental hygienists and stressed the necessity of revision of the medical service act focusing on the result of ‘Research on inclusion of dental hygienists into the medical service personnel category,’ conducted by Sojong Partners at the request of the KDHA.

Professor Jeong explained that dental hygienists are the personnel who conduct medical practices such as preventive dentistry measures and dental treatment support (assistance to dentists) but they are categorized as medical technologists under the current law.

Even worse, the Enforcement Ordinance of Medical Technologists, etc. Act that took effect last December limited dental hygienists' acts of dental treatment support into only five cases including

‘temporary filling,’ ‘installation of temporary attachments,’ ‘removal of attachments,’ ‘molding of teeth,’ and ‘installation and removal of lines for orthodontics.’ This implies that other works performed by dental hygienists may constitute a violation of the law, which raising concerns of dental clinics.

Professor Jeong pointed out several issues of the current laws related to dental hygienists which included ▲crippled provision of dental treatment, ▲disputes over R&R, ▲labor shortage of dental hygienists, etc.

During the panel discussion with KDHA Vice President Jeong Jae-yeon as chairman, ▲Professor Emeritus Kim Jong-yeol at College of Dentistry of Yonsei University, ▲Director Jang Hyo-sook of Seoul Dental Hygienists Association ▲Professor Hwang Yoon-sook at Dental Hygienics Department of Hanyang Women's University ▲MOHW Healthcare Resource Policy Division head Lee Seulan had a heated debate.

All the panel members agreed on the necessity of the law revision as it causes a serious issue for legal status of dental hygienists, but opinions varied about directions of the law revision.

As a representative of the government, division head Lee Seulan showed a positive stance on the necessity to revise the work scope of dental hygienists under the current Enforcement Ordinance of Medical Technologists, etc. Act but mentioned that there are challenges in revision of the medical service act.

KDHA Vice President Jeong, the chairman of panel discussion, made clear that the association's goal is not just revision of the law but provision of proper legal status that suit roles and responsibilities of dental hygienists.

Senior dentists, “Dental hygienist must be recognized as the medical service personnel”

At the panel discussion, attentions were paid to the supportive comments by senior dentists for including dental hygienists into the medical service personnel category.

Former dean of College of Dentistry at Seoul National University said, “A doctor touches a patient to provide necessary diagnosis and medical treatment. A dental hygienist performs teeth cleaning and scaling, which is solely dependent on hands of the performer. It can't be directed or ordered by anyone else. Dental hygienists are at the center of medical services. They provide more direct medical practices than registered nurses. Therefore, they need to be recognized as the medical service personnel.”

Dr. Yang Jeong-kang of Gangnam SRSR Dental Clinic said, “Raised status of dental hygienists will lead to raised status of dentists. The law needs to allow dental hygienists to perform dental procedures of low level of difficulty, while dentists carry out dental procedures of high level of difficulty. It is a waste for high quality personnel to perform simple tasks.”

KDHA President Moon Kyeong-sook said, “The association will continue to present its opinions to the government and the National Assembly so that the work environment is improved for dental hygienists and their legal status is guaranteed as the medical service personnel at dental clinics. We will hold a discussion with the Korea Dental Association soon.” Around 150 experts and researchers from the dentistry and medical industries attended the discussion. It was reported by various mass media including Yonhap News, drawing attentions from the public.

KDHA completed its English webpage renovation



Korean Dental Hygienists Association completed renovation of its English homepage (eng.kdha.or.kr) and opened on November 16.

In preparation for hosting the 2019 International Symposium on Dental Hygiene in Seoul, the association renovated its English homepage as a part of the project to promote the Korean dental hygiene industry.

The newly-opened English homepage put the highest priority to resolve curiosity from foreigners on Korean dental hygienists and promote

exchanges with international dental hygienists associations and their members by providing contact points of the KDHA such as phone numbers, email address and social media accounts. More

specifically, the homepage introduces history of the association, the national examination for the license, education institutions, career prospect and KDHA newsletters in English.

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Korea's first Ph.D in the dental hygienics



Ko Hyo-jin, Kim Ye-hwang, Cho Moon-mi at Graduate School of Dong-Eui University

Dong-Eui University conferred the first Ph.D in dental hygienics in Korea.

Ko Hyo-jin (41), Kim Ye-hwang (31) and Cho Moon-mi (43), studying in the doctoral program at Department of Biomedical Health Science, Graduate School of Dong-Eui University, were awarded with doctorate in dental hygienics on February 19. Their doctorate thesis that they had prepared for 3 years were 'Analysis on oral pathogenic microorganism of senior citizens suffering from senile dementia in nursing home' (Ko Hyo-jin, Professor at

Dental Hygienics Department of Choonhae College of Health Science), 'Menopause and its impact on metabolic syndrome and periodontal diseases' (Kim Ye-hwang, adjunct teaching staff at Dental Hygienics Department of Masan University), and 'Patients' rude attitude against dental hygienists and its impact on performance of the organization ? centering on mediator effect of emotional exhaustion' (Cho Moon-mi, Manager of Busan Veterans Hospital), which all passed dissertation examination.

They shared how they felt about obtaining Korea's first Ph.D degrees in dental hygienics, saying, "I believe this is the first step to show the result

of specialized education in dental hygiene, which is all the more meaningful and fruitful." "I will redouble my efforts for further advancement, reminding importance of the first Ph.D in dental hygienics," "I think earning a doctorate is more than personal honor. I hope this becomes an opportunity to prove that dental hygienics holds great value academically."

Dong-Eui University opened the doctoral program in dental hygienics in 2013. Academic advisers are Professor Kim Hye-jin (Clinical dental hygienics), Lee Min-kyeong (Oral biology), Lee Jeong-hwa (Preventive dentistry), and Yoon Hyeon-seo (Clinical dentistry).

Dental hygienist became public health clinic director

Director Kim Soon-bok at the public health clinic in Damyang-gun

Former dental hygienist was appointed as the public health clinic director. It is director Kim Soon-bok, 53, who was inaugurated as director of the public health clinic in Damyang-gun on July 5.

Director Kim was appointed as Clerk for Regional Medical Technology (C8) at the public health clinic in Damyang-gun in 1992. Kim got promoted to Junior Official for Regional Medical Technology (C6) in 2009 and made

great contribution to dental health projects and other projects conducted by the public health clinic such as food sanitation, family relationship and women policies. This January, Kim was promoted to the Chief Official for Regional Medical Technology (C5) was confirmed and appointed as director of the public health clinic.

"Feeling glad and proud, I am going to expand dental health projects in local communities and do my best to enhance the status of dental hygienists and promote development of dental hygiene."

"Also, I will create the work environment where dental hygienist-turned-civil servants can focus on their works and get promoted with their achievements duly recognized," director Kim added.

Born in Hamgyeong-gun in South Jeolla Province, Kim graduated from Gwangju Health College majoring dental hygienics, and obtained bachelor's degrees in social welfare and public administration at Wonkwang Digital University and Korea National Open University. Later, Kim earned her Master's degree in den-

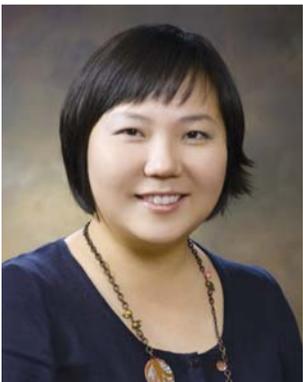
tal hygienics at the graduate school of public health, Chosun University.

Kim has served as finance director, general affair director, legal director and chairman of Gwangju/South Jeolla Province Dental Hygienists Association. After her employment as adjunct professor at Dental Hygienics Department in Seo Yeong University in 2005, she's been teaching dental hygienics at Dental Health Education Department for 10 years.



Korean dental hygienist's paper draws attention from 'world clinical dentistry'

Proving efficiency of professional tooth brushing for dental plaque care



Kim, Min-jung



Noh Hie-jin



Oh, Hye-young

Korean researcher team proved that professional tooth brushing performed before ultrasonic dental scaling can effectively shorten the time for teeth cleaning.

The domestic research team consisting of Vice President Kim, Min-jung (the lead author) of the

Korean dental Hygienists Association, who works as clinical practitioner at Seoul Boa Dental Clinic, Professor Noh, Hie-jin at Yonsei University and Professor Oh, Hye-young at Suwon Science College published a paper on 'Efficiency of profes-

sional tooth brushing before ultrasonic scaling' in 2014.

According to the paper, the patient group who received professional tooth brushing for dental plaque care by dental hygienists before ultrasonic scaling spent 7.41 minutes in average

while the comparative group spent 23.22 minutes. The patient groups showed similar satisfaction levels.

"This result shows that professional tooth brushing or other dental plaque care by dental hygienists before ultrasonic scaling was effective to save time for teeth scaling. It is very cost-effective since it does not require any new dental clinic devices or additional training to provide patient-oriented dental health care," said the research team.

This paper was published by the International Journal of Dental Hygiene (IJDH) of the International Federation of Dental Hygienists (IFDH) in 2015, which globally acknowledged the paper's research achievement.

Vice President Kim, who provided the idea, said, "Most patients have their teeth scaled while having plaques on their teeth. In such cases, unnecessary processes to perform ultrasound scaling on teeth which are not coated tartar. Even though dental hygienists teach how to brush teeth after scaling, patients can't focus on it because they suffered stress from scaling."

"Being aware of this problem, I started providing professional tooth brushing for removal of dental plaque care before ultrasound scaling. Based on 5-year-long clinical experiences, I started proving the efficacy of professional tooth brushing to remove dental plaque before ultrasound scaling," said Vice

President Kim, explaining the background of research project.

At the 2016 International Symposium on Dental Hygiene (ISDH) held in Basel, Switzerland, attentions were paid as this paper became the base for the product concept (Guided Biofilm Therapy: GBT) of Swiss EMS company.

EMS introduced its product Air Flow GBT concept at the sponsored workshop at the ISDH where international dental hygienists and dental clinic related officials and used this paper as an evidence. As the paper proved, the product focused on the fact that scaling after removing bio-film provides positive effect.

“Renewing commitment for development and mutual collaboration of dentistry”

KDA-KDHA leadership held meeting



Korean Dental Hygienists Association (President Moon Kyeong-sook, hereinafter KDHA) and the Korean Dental Association (President Choi Nam-sup, hereinafter KDA) had a leadership meeting at Jinjinbara in Seocho-dong, Seoul,

on August 30 to pursue cooperation for further development of clinical dentistry and mutual cooperation.

KDHA President Moon Kyeong-sook who hosted the leadership meeting said, “It is not easy to bring together KDA and

KDHA leadership. I wanted to host this event earlier, but it was not easy to choose a date. As this is a rare opportunity, I hope this meeting serves as a chance to promote mutual existence of both associations.”

KDA President Choi Nam-sup replied, “The clinical dentistry needs to advance further within the boundary of mutual existence. Let’s put our heads together to find solutions of pending issues and explore ways for further development.”

The leadership meeting focused on in-depth discussions on pending issues such as inclusion of dental hygienists into the medical service personnel category and labor shortage of assistance at dental clinics, etc.

KDHA President Moon asked for active support from the KDA to enhance the legal status of dental hygienists to the

medical service personnel.

“Over the past 50 years, curriculums were created and changed in line with division and specialization of works by dental hygienists. However, the law stays all the same. The law is contradictory to the current clinical practices. The occupation that provides medical services must be included in the categories protected by the medical service act. I’d like dentists to express their stance to the government to ensure the proper legal status for dental hygienists,” said President Moon.

To the KDHA president’s strong appeal for support, KDA President Choi answered, “I thought the Medical Technologists, etc. Act was an unjust law. About the status issue of dental hygienists, the association will review with the KDA policy director and the

KDA Health Policy Institute will start a research project.”

The KDHA proposed that the two associations need to establish a system to develop curriculums for dental hygienists.

“To utilize dental hygienists to the full extent, they need to work not only as a clinical practitioner but also as a manager of a dental clinic based on their expertise. Considering demand from the both organizations, dental hygienists need to be trained as managers based on systematic training courses,” said the KDHA president.

In addition, the KDHA asked for the KDA’s support to hire dental hygienists at long-term care facilities for senior citizens in line with the newly-introduced system to have part-time dentists at such facilities.

Discussion started in full swing on hiring dental hygienists at care facilities for senior citizens

KDHA formed ‘Special Dental Health Committee for Senior Citizens’



Korean Dental Hygienists Association (President Moon Kyeong-sook, hereinafter KDHA) started discussions on establishment of a system to have part-time dental hygienists for systematic dental health care of senior citizens at care facilities.

The KDHA formed the Special Dental Health Committee for Senior Citizens on April 6 and decided to appoint Professor Park Jeong-ran at Baekseok University as the committee chairman.

President Moon Kyeong-sook said at the expert meeting on the special committee, “Senior citizens staying at the care facilities have mobility difficulties. They need systematic dental health care. To provide effective measures, the association formed a special committee with experts who have worked at such facilities or studied related matters.”

President Moon added, “Ultimately, it is necessary to establish a system to hire part-time dental hygienists at such facilities. We need to provide scientific evidence to the government and the National Assembly. The association

needs to collect research results that we’ve worked on to provide the future direction of this special committee and create the atmosphere so that dental hygienists can raise their voices together.”

The newly appointed committee chairman Park Jeong-ran said, “The special committee’s core task is mandatory hiring of dental hygienists at care facilities for senior citizens. Many research papers have been published and the committee is ready to carry out the core task. To create the atmosphere to highlight importance of dental hygienists at care facilities, the dental hygiene community needs to have internal motivation.”

Special Dental Health Committee for Senior Citizens had meeting four times by the end of December in 2016, discussing pending issues and future directions for improvement. The committee shared information of the current long-term care insurance system for the aged and trends related to the system of having part-time dentists at care facilities. The committee members had discussions from various angles on how to promote

dental healthcare activities for the aged at care facilities, such as hosting an academic conference or establishing a society.

KDHA scouted former head of Division of dental health and Healthy Life in MOHW

Yang Yoon-seo, 60, the former head of Division of dental health and Healthy Life in the Ministry of Health and Welfare, was appointed as Secretary General of the Korean Dental Hygienists Association on November 1.

Secretary General Yang worked as head of Collaboration Support Division, manager of the Central Inspection Team, and head of the Division of Life Environment at the National Youth Committee. After serving as head of the Health and Welfare Call center, official for policy statistics, head of Division of Long-term Care Insurance Management and head of the Division of dental health and Healthy Life at the Ministry of Health Welfare. At the end of June, he retired from the public service.

“After working for the Division of dental health and Healthy Life over two years, I came to recognize the importance of dental health and wanted to pursue career in the related field. Then, the KDHA contacted me to scout. By utilizing my experiences in the public service, I will do my best for improvement of dental health, promotion of interests and rights of dental hygienists and development of the association,” said the new Secretary General.

KDHA’s first accounting audit result: ‘Fair’

As its financial scale grows, the Korean Dental Hygienists Association requested an accredited independent accounting auditor to gain credibility from members and verify its fair and transparent financial management.

Accordingly, between August 8 and August 18, three certified public accounts from ‘Woori Accounting Firm’ started an audit to verify financial management of the association with three years’ accounting records from 2013 to 2015. The accountant team provided the audit result to the KDHA on August 29, which included suitability of the accounting policy and rationality of accounting estimates in the association’s financial management status.

The audit result showed that the association’s settlement of accounts were fairly recorded and managed based on the priorities according to the financial accounting principles.

KDHA’s radio broadcast on dental health and dental hygienists

Korean Dental Hygienists Association (President Moon Kyeong-sook, hereinafter KDHA) started radio broadcasting to promote the importance of dental health and dental

hygienists.

The KDHA started airing a radio campaign on TBS Traffic Broadcast (FM 95.1MHz) for 3 months from June 16 to September 15 at 8:28 AM every day. Through the radio campaign that aired at the same time every day, the KDHA highlighted the importance of dental health and promoted dental hygienists as dental health expert responsible for dental health care and dental disease prevention.

The following is the entire content of the radio campaign by the KDHA.

“You can enjoy delicious food and show off a beautiful smile thanks to your healthy teeth. Dental health is one of the highest priorities in the era where people can live a long life over 100 years old. To maintain healthy teeth and prevent dental diseases, see your dental hygienist at a close dental clinic. Dental hygienists are the dental health expert responsible for your dental health care and dental disease prevention. Consult with your dental hygienist to enjoy delicious food and maintain a beautiful smile for a longer period. This campaign is provided by the Korean Dental Hygienists Association.”



KDHA met the newly appointed Chairman of Health and Welfare Committee at National Assembly

Strongly proposed to include 'dental hygienists into the category of medical service personnel'



Korean Dental Hygienists Association President Moon Kyeong-sook met with Chairman Yang Seung-jo of the National Assembly Health and Welfare Committee and Chairman Nam In-soon of the National Assembly Women and Family Committee on June 16 right after the 20th National Assembly opened. President Moon explained pending issues of the dental hygiene community and asked for their support and attention.

President Moon paid the visit to have a face-to-face meeting at the opening session of the National Assembly in order to raise awareness on pending issues and promote smooth communication.

At the meeting with Chairman Yang Seung-jo of the National Assembly Health and Welfare Committee, President Moon explained the pending issues such as 'inclusion of dental hygienists into the category of medical

service personnel,' 'vitalization of the dental health preventive projects,' 'hiring dental hygienists at care facilities for the aged,' 'dental hygienist license holders' mandatory joining of the association,' etc.

President Moon Kyeong-sook said, "Although dental hygienists provide medical services but they are categorized as medical technologists under the current law. Dental hygienists' proper duties are not protected by the relevant law. Legal system needs to be revised to reflect the reality at dental clinics."

"Legal basis is not established for realistic work scope and R&R of dental hygienists. Therefore, dental hygienists are limited to provide preventive dental care services for infants and children in elementary school. Ultimately, the public will bear the burden," added the president.

President Moon also asked, "Revision

of the law will ensure healthy later years of the aged, promote health of children and save budgets for the public health insurance. I hope the committee members actively provide support with great care".

Chairman Yang responded, "I fully understand. Various occupations having independent areas are bound by a single law, which causes issues. I will sufficiently review revision of the medical service act."

At the meeting with Chairman Nam In-soon of the National Assembly Women and Family Committee, President Moon explained pending issues of the dental hygiene community, asking for the committee's interest and cooperation. The KDHA president explained pending issues such as mandatory installation of dental health office at schools, hiring of dental hygienists at care facilities for the aged, and restora-

tion of the government department designated for dental health, etc.

KDHA stressed necessity of revision of Medical Service Act to leading opposition

Korean Dental Hygienists Association President Moon Kyeong-sook met with Chairman Kim Chong-in of the Minjoo Party, the leading opposition party, to emphasize the necessity of medical service act revision to enhance legal status of dental hygienists.

President Moon Kyeong-sook and the leadership of medical technologist groups had an agreement ceremony for medical technologist groups at the meeting room of the Minjoo Party at the National Assembly on March 10. President Moon asked to put the highest priority on the status issue of 400,000 medical technologists during the 20th general election.

The agreement ceremony was held by

the Minjoo Party to listen to voices on pending issues of the healthcare and medical community before the general election, Party chairman Kim Chong-in, Chairman Lee Mok-hee of the Policy Committee, Rep. Park Young-sun, head of the Economy Practice HQ, Rep. Jeong Choon-soo of the Inequality Resolution HQ, and other policy officials. The medical technologist groups such as the KDHA delivered books on individual group's pending issues and asked for cooperation of the opposition party to resolve the issues.

As a common issue, the groups together asked the opposition party to make a general election campaign pledge to introduce mandatory membership of the license holders and policy direction to address the Medical Technologists, etc. Act.

President Moon said, "The current medical service act does not reflect the reality of medical field. It must be revised to reflect the current status. To improve dental health of the public and enhance the level of public healthcare services, it is essential to improve the quality of dental hygienists who work with dentists, and provide refresher training programs for them. Therefore, it is natural to introduce the mandatory membership system of the license holders and their legal status must be protected by relevant laws.

The Minjoo Party said the party would review actively to address pending issues raised by the medical technologist groups, such as legalization of the mandatory membership system of license holders.

KDHA proposed "Mutual recognition of dental hygienist license" to the MOHW

The association submitted its official opinion



On September 1, the Korean Dental Hygienists Association (President Moon Kyeong-sook, hereinafter KDHA) submitted its written official opinion to the Ministry of Health and Welfare, saying that the dental hygienist license must be mutually recognized across the nations to promote Korean dental hygienists' advancement into foreign markets.

The written opinion contained basic direction of dental hygienists' advancement into foreign markets depending on existence of the dental hygienist system, actions plans and expected results.

The KDHA said in the opinion, "In case of nations with the legal sys-

tem of dental hygienists, the role of dental hygienists is clearly defined across the dentistry fields. It is possible to exchange the professional manpower among advanced nations through mutual recognition of the license as universities have the curriculum and degree courses."

The KDHA believes that mutual recognition of the dental hygienist license will raise levels of the dental care services in each nation through sharing information on advanced dental hygiene curriculum and manpower exchanges.

The association also pointed out that Korean dental hygienists can be utilized who can understand both cultures in Korea and the other nation, when a dental clinic advances into a foreign market.

In addition, the association added this system would contribute to resolve labor shortage at dental clinics thanks to inflow of foreign dental hygienists, and enhance the level of dental hygienist curriculum. The association proposed detailed action plans for dental hygienists to advance into foreign markets.

According to the KDHA's opinion, ▲establishment of the system for mutual recognition of curriculums among the nations, ▲provision of temporary or special qualification for employment when they obtain the license, ▲development of programs to help employment per each nation, and ▲establishment of the international collaboration system to train professional dental health expertise at developing nations.

In case of nations without the dental hygienist system, the association

also proposed to provide support for education of dental hygienists, introduction of the license (qualification) system, employment of dental hygienists, and mutual advancement into foreign markets with businesses related to the dental hygiene.

To this end, the KDHA stressed that it is necessary to reach a consensus on the role of dental hygienists and introduction of the system, building partnership with education institutes or education resources by sending professors, and legalization of the dental hygienist system and their work scopes.

The KDHA proposed to introduce the dental hygienist system to Mongolia and the Department of Dental hygienics was created at College of Dentistry in National Mongolia Healthcare and Science University in 2010. This is an example that shows there's a high possibility.

KDHA said, "As Korean dental hygienists advance into foreign nations, the domestic industry can export the Korean style dental clinic system, promote the wave of domestic dental clinic services, invite foreign patients into the domestic medical tourism services, and vitalize domestic economy, etc."

Meanwhile, the KDHA is participating at the "TF for dental clinics to advance into foreign nations and attract patients" hosted by the Division of Oral Health and Healthy Life at the Ministry of Health and Welfare, along with the Korean Dental Association and the Korean Dental Clinic Material Industry Association.

No problem with dental hygienists whose career discontinued

KDHA's 2nd reemployment training course successfully ended

Korean Dental Hygienists Association (President Moon Kyeong-sook, hereinafter KDHA) provided the second reemployment training course for dental hygienists who stopped working.

This training course aimed at dental hygienists whose career discontinued or who want to be reemployed, helping them to boost their confidence and exercise their capability as an expert.

Around 17 dental hygienists participated in the first training course that was hosted on April 5 and 6. Attendants were from the metropolitan area, North Chungcheong Province, South Chungcheong Province, Gangwon Province and North Gyeongsang Province, etc.

During the training course, Kim Yoo-mi (Bucheon The Naeun Dental Clinic) provided a lecture by combining the theory and hands-on experience about the basic course for dental clinic public health insurance and coverage of false teeth and implant. Following that, Professor Seong Hee-seon (Professor of Dental Hygienics Department at Kyeongpook National University) introduced the public health coverage on dental surgery and periodontal treatment, drawing a lot of attentions from the participants.

The KDHA rented laptops to individual participants so that they can

learn how to apply for the public health insurance to cover the dental clinic services. The association also had the Q&A time to provide detailed answers to questions from participants, which increased the satisfaction level of participants.

In the 2nd education program on May 12 and 13, 10 dental hygienists in their 20s up to 40s participated. Lecturer Yoo Eun-mi (Dental Hygienics at Shingu College) provided a lecture under the theme of 'Continuous dental health management' focusing on changes of the dental care environment, the necessity of continued dental healthcare, comprehensive dental hygiene management process, comprehensive dental hygiene management in the clinical practice, and practices for the continued dental healthcare.

Under the topic of 'Implant maintenance and management,' lecturer Kim Min-jeong (BrainSpec) gave a presentation on the role of dental hygienists for implant treatment which raises satisfaction levels of patients. Lecturer Kim Bo-kyeong (Dental Hygienics at Shingu University) and Kim Soo-yeon (Dental Clinic Hospital at Dankook University) also provided lectures combining theories and hands-on practices under the theme of 'Teeth scaling, which is comfortable me



and patients.'

Ultrasound scaler and a dummy, and a measurement device for pressure from the side were provided for hands-on practice. Participants were able to practice the scaler by themselves.

"It was a very fruitful session since I was trained on what is required by clinical practice," said the participants.

KDHA invited Indiana University Professor Nancy K. Mann for advice

To check up the future direction of grinding device training courses for instructors

The Training Course Committee of the Korean Dental Hygienists Association (President Moon Kyeong-sook, hereinafter KDHA) invited Professor Nancy K. Mann of Indiana University, who is the official instructor of Hu-Friedy device at the dental Hygienist Hall on July 12.

The KDHA focused on training specialized instructors of grinding devices and has invited globally-renowned

instructors to provide training courses for instructors since 2015. By asking for advices from the professor, the association plans to maintain reliability of the grinding device training courses for instructors and secure credibility of the curriculum.

At the meeting with Professor Mann, KDHA Vice President Kim Min-jeong, training course committee members Park Jeong-yi and Kim

Soo-yeon, international committee member Kim Bo-kyeong, Professor Jeong Hye-ran of Donga College of Health, and Hue-Friedy Korean branch manager Cho Young-soo participated to check up the curriculum and share their opinions.

"It is impressive to see that the association tries it best to create a new training course of the Korean version for clinical practitioners. They

are full of passion to find out new devices for convenience of clinical practitioners and train them in how to use the latest device," said Professor Mann.

KDHA President Moon also attended the advisory meeting and exchanged opinions about latest global trends in the dental hygiene communities and the future direction of development.



Practice-focused 'SDA training course in Japan' successfully ended



The Korean Dental Hygienists Association provided a training course in collaboration with Japanese Swiss Dental Academy in Tokyo, Japan, from November 8 to November 11

Six Korean dental hygienists participated in the training course. Japan's renowned periodontal specialist Dr. Dakeuchi was the speaker and gave a presentation on new

paradigm of periodontal treatment, concept of biotherapy, principles of minimal invasion treatment, characteristics of roles of the ultrasound scaler and theoretical background that has been newly added.

Participants had hands-on practices using a dummy to learn how to use the tip precisely for painless and comfortable teeth scaling. They also practiced scaling method for cementum preservation, how to control bio-film of natural teeth and implant teeth using the Air-Flow. Participants also visited a local dental clinic to monitor the role of dental hygienists in Japan and practiced what they learned during the training course.

"I was able to learn in-depth approaches of ultrasound scaler and Air-Flow device at this training course, which made me realize that dental hygienists are at the center of periodontal treatment. I felt that dental hygienists need to continuously learn latest knowledge and technologies so that patients can feel comfortable and satisfactory. Great care and efforts to brush up technologies are required for the occupation," said one of the participants.

Putting spurs to policy and promotional projects for 'advancement of dental hygienists'

KDHA had employee workshop

Korean Dental Hygienists Association (President Moon Kyeong-sook, hereinafter KDHA) had the 2017 Business Planning Workshop to look back on its achievement in 2016 and set up plans for better achievements in the next year.

The workshop held at Seoul Women Plaza for 2 days and 1 night on December 9 and 10, President Moon, executives and employees gathered together to have a heated discussion over the 2017 core business plans per individual committee.

Especially, the KDHA put priorities on development of future policy directions and new promotion strategies for advancement of dental hygienists when setting up for the 2017 business plans.

The business plans include policy development and research as a part of efforts to promote rights and interest of dental hygienists and improvement of their treatment, expansion of health insurance coverage at dental clinics, policy enhancement, and operation of the ethics committee, etc.

To promote the expertise of dental hygienists to the general public, promotion methods such as broadcasts or advertisement on mass transportation vehicles were discussed together.

"More than 5,000 young dental hygienists are produced every year. The association needs to think about what it can do for them so that they have hope and a sense of satisfaction in their work environment to carry out their duties. In

that regard, the association's major businesses will be policy and promotion areas, and the city and provincial association need to actively participate to implement the plan," said the president.

At the workshop, participants also discussed how to promote exchanges with the International Federation of Dental Hygienists (IFDH) in preparation for the 2019 International Symposium on Dental Hygiene (ISDH) in Seoul and set up plans to encourage international exchanges such as the Asia-Pacific Dental Hygienists Council. In addition, ways to develop training programs to enhance job competency of dental hygienists were discussed at the workshop. KDHA executives and employees continued discussions excluding meal times over 2 days to reach a consensus.



First ceremony to celebrate 'Dental Health Day' draws attention

Joint ceremony of clinical dentistry organizations

On the 71st Dental Health Day (June 9), which marked the first legal anniversary, the Korean Dental Hygienists Association and other dentistry related organizations joined their forces together to host various programs such as promotional campaigns and dental treatment volunteer services to highlight the importance of dental hygiene.

Great popularity of dental healthcare services for senior citizens

The Korean Dental Hygienists Association, the Korean Dental Association, and the Korean Dental Technologist Association provided dental clinic

services for 250 senior citizens at the Seoul Elderly Welfare Center on June 9 at 10 AM.

Using a dental clinic bus and temporary offices for diagnosis and dental technical laboratory, the three organizations provided dental clinic services such as oral examination, teeth scaling and dentures repair.

Dental hygienists performed teeth scaling to 71 senior citizens and supported dentists to promote smooth provision of dental clinic services, raising satisfactory levels of the visitors.

Dental health lectures provided by dental hygienist Jeong Min-sook drew great popularity from senior citizens, with dental healthcare education, mouth exercise and oral muscle stretching.

The health lectures were provided for 30 minutes and six times from 10 AM. Participants passionately participated in the lecture by writing down and asking questions. Outside the lecture room, senior citizens formed a line waiting to experience dental healthcare programs.

On the same day, Korean Dental Hygienists Association President Moon Kyeong-sook, Korean Dental Association President Choi Nam-sup, and Korean Dental Technologist Association President Kim Choon-gil distributed lunch to senior citizens for an hour from the noon. They also met with head of the elderly welfare center to discuss detailed measures on how to promote dental health of the elderly at the center.



Joint promotion campaign of clinical dentistry organizations

Korean Dental Hygienists Association and other clinical dentistry organizations started promotion campaign and provided oral examination to 1,000 citizens at the Gwanghwamun Square in Seoul on the same day on 10 AM.

The KDHA operated promotional booths under the theme of "Day to brush teeth with dental hygienists" to provide dental health promotion programs such as

dental health education per life-cycle, hands-on experiences on dental health products, applying colorant to identify dental plaque, drawing dental plaque, Q-scan examination of dental diseases, etc.

By using the LCD monitors and photo zones, the association actively promoted the occupation of dental hygienist. Two painters drew caricatures of visitors to attract citizens and foreign visitors to the

booth.

The Korean Dental Association dispatched dental clinic bus in the vicinity of the square to provide free-of-charge dental examination services. The Korean Dental Technologist Association provided air freshener in the shape of teeth for free.

The Korea Dental Industry Association taught how to use dental hygiene products properly, and the

Korea Dental Health Association provided chances for visitors to monitor oral bacteria using a phase microscope and measure bad breath using the breathalyzer. In addition, the Korea Health Promotion Institute displayed artworks from the Children Right Tooth Brushing Practice Competition drawing attention from the citizens.

First event to celebrate 'Oral Health Day' as legal holiday

The 71th Dental Health Day ceremony was hosted at the Convention Hall, Kyobo Building in Gwanghwamun, Seoul, on the same day at 10 AM.

Around 300 distinguished guests including Minister Jeong Jin-yeop of the Ministry of Health and Welfare, Korean Dental Hygienists Association President Moon Kyeong-sook, Korean Dental Association President Choi Nam-sup, Korean Dental Technologist Association President Kim

Choon-gil, Korea Dental Health Association President Shin Seung-cheol and President Jeong Ki-hye of the Korea Health Promotion Institute and contributors for dental health promotion attended the event. During the ceremony, the contributors for dental health promotion were awarded with prizes, winners of the children appropriate tooth brushing activity competition were awarded with prizes and the theme video clip was played.

KDHA signed sponsorship agreement with single mother support network



Korean Dental Hygienists Association (President Moon Kyeong-sook, hereinafter KDHA) hosted a sponsorship event to help single mothers and decided to donate 10 million won to financially support single mothers.

The KDHA and the Korea Single Mother Support Network (President Park Young-mi) operated a booth to support single mothers at the 4th

floor lobby of the Grand Hilton Seoul Convention Center on August 6 and 7.

Dental hygienists hosted this event with an aim to have a sense of the public responsibility as member of society and take lead to secure and realize the right of health for the less privileged.

As a result of the event, 24 people promised temporary support and 13 pledged for regular support to single mothers, which included support of nursery products. The KDHA donated 10 million won at the end of the event, on August 7, for self-sufficiency and protection of single mothers.

KDHA President Moon Kyeong-

sook signed an agreement for donation to support single mothers with President Park Young-mi of the Korea Single Mother Support Network.

At the signing ceremony, President Moon said, "A series of incidents that took place in our society make us realize how important it is to raise children. With this small amount of donation, the association provides it by gathering hearts of members wishing our society becomes a better place. I personally support single mothers' courage to choose to raise their children despite prejudice of the society. I hope the society can share the burden with them."

KDHA's dental health projects for children and youth

Korean Dental Hygienists Association (President Moon Kyeong-sook, hereinafter KDHA) is expected to expand the 'Dental Health Project for Children and the Youth,' which was a part of its social contribution, thanks to enthusiastic responses from the targeted group.

Targeting 10,300 students in elementary and middle schools in Seodaemun-gu, Seoul, in collaboration of the local government, the KDHA encouraged them to brush their teeth after having lunch and taught how to brush their teeth from April up to date.

Through this project, the KDHA aims to create the right environment for children and the youth to brush their teeth during their daily lives, and change their awareness for dental health care at families.

Thanks to enthusiastic responses from children, the youth, teachers and parents, 9

schools decided to join the project and more students are expected to be benefited from the project.

KDHA Vice President Jeong Jae-yeon said, "Children and the youth are likely to skip dental health care due to busy schedules to study. It is important to teach them the right way to brush their teeth and create the atmosphere to practice it continuously, which is to lay the foundation for their dental health during the rest of life. I hope this project will be the basis for dental healthcare projects in collaboration of local communities."



KDHA provided tooth-decay prevention education for children

Korean Dental Hygienists Association (President Moon Kyeong-sook, hereinafter KDHA) operated a healing cafe, an education program for children to prevent tooth cavity in May, the month of family.

On May 19 from 10 to 12 AM, the KDHA invited 30 children from the Jegi-dong Sarang Day Care Center at the Dental Hygienist Hall to provide dental health education with dental hygienists.

This event is the dental health

promotion project, which is carried out at the interval of 3 months targeting children and senior citizens who are likely to pay less attention to the dental healthcare.

During the event, a video clip was played to show the role of teeth, tooth cavity and how to prevent a decayed tooth. Various programs were provided including checking up how to brush teeth, drawing dental plaque using colorant, one-on-one dental care training, education of the

mouth exercise and professional tooth brushing, etc.

Dental hygienists gave answers to questions from children, emphasizing the importance of dental health.

