The EFP thanks Colgate for its support and its unrestricted grant.

Gum Disease and Tooth Decay, the most widespread oral conditions, are preventable.

Caries and periodontal diseases are the commonest human diseases - and both are preventable.

The burden of these diseases is high and is increasing as the population ages.

Dental professionals should be consulted regularly to prevent and treat caries and periodontal diseases effectively.

Bleeding gums are not normal. Dental professionals should be consulted immediately.

The oral healthcare team can advise on weight loss, smoking cessation, exercise, and controlling diabetes and glycaemia in general.

Periodontal disease should be seen as an indicator of general health issues.

Education for oral health should target children, mothers to be, new mothers, care home workers and other caregivers.

Oral health status in older individuals is influenced by their level of dependence, rather than by their chronological age.

Reducing sugar and starch intake levels and frequency is important in preventing periodontal disease and caries. Intake should be limited to mealtimes.

Brushing twice daily with fluoride toothpaste is essential and can also be supplemented with additional effective agents that reduce plaque, such as those found in mouthwash and toothpastes.

Retaining Healthy Teeth for Life has multiple benefits

- allows chewing, eating, speaking and smiling to be optimal
- reduces the risk of general health issues
- improves the quality of life and wellbeing
- positively impacts health economics

Severe Periodontitis is the sixth most common disease globally.

10% of the global population are affected by Severe Periodontitis. 743 million people affected.

1 person in 3 is affected by Caries.

Severe Periodontitis is a leading cause of tooth loss in adult population.

Untreated Caries and Periodontitis may have severe consequences and lead to tooth loss.

Gum Disease and Tooth Decay (Caries) continue to be major public health problems worldwide.

Severe Periodontitis is a leading cause of tooth loss in adult population.

Retaining Healthy Teeth for Life has multiple benefits