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Impact of Access to Oral Health Care on Oral Health and Multimorbidity

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Impact of Access to Oral Health Care on Oral Health and Multimorbidity

Oral diseases are a significant global health challenge, especially among vulnerable groups like the elderly. Aging increases the risk of various co-existing conditions, including oral diseases, impacting individuals, society, and healthcare systems. There is a growing body of evidence linking several chronic conditions like cardiovascular diseases, respiratory diseases and even mental illness to oral diseases. Canada's policy debates on universal access to oral health care highlight the need to understand oral health's contribution to middle-aged and older Canadians' overall health. My research work aims to assess the relationship between oral health and multimorbidity and analyzing whether oral health care access variables would impact this relationship. My project research is essential for informing dental care policies and improving access to oral health care for vulnerable groups, ultimately reducing the burden of oral diseases and improving overall health outcomes.