



Care Services for Older people is to improve quality of care including Oral Health Care

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Ministry of Social Affairs and Health

**The Law on Care Services for Older People is to improve quality of care.
The Act entered into force on 1 July 2013**

Quality recommendation aiming to guarantee high-quality ageing and improve services has been published 2013

Together with the Association of Finnish Local and Regional Authorities, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health has issued a quality recommendation, which strives to guarantee high-quality ageing and effective services for those older people in need of them.

A network project for oral health



- Is preparing **a quality recommendation for ensuring the oral health and wellbeing of older people and improving services**
- The quality recommendation is one in the set of recommendations issued by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health to ensure good ageing
- A network Spreads **good practices** to boost the achievement of the objectives of the quality recommendation



The Act on Services for Older Persons underpins favourable development

A strategy for services for the older population

Local authorities must draw up a service plan to promote the wellbeing and health of the older population and to develop services for them



□ The plan must

- assess the state of wellbeing
- explore needs, risks and objectives
- define the necessary measures and responsibilities

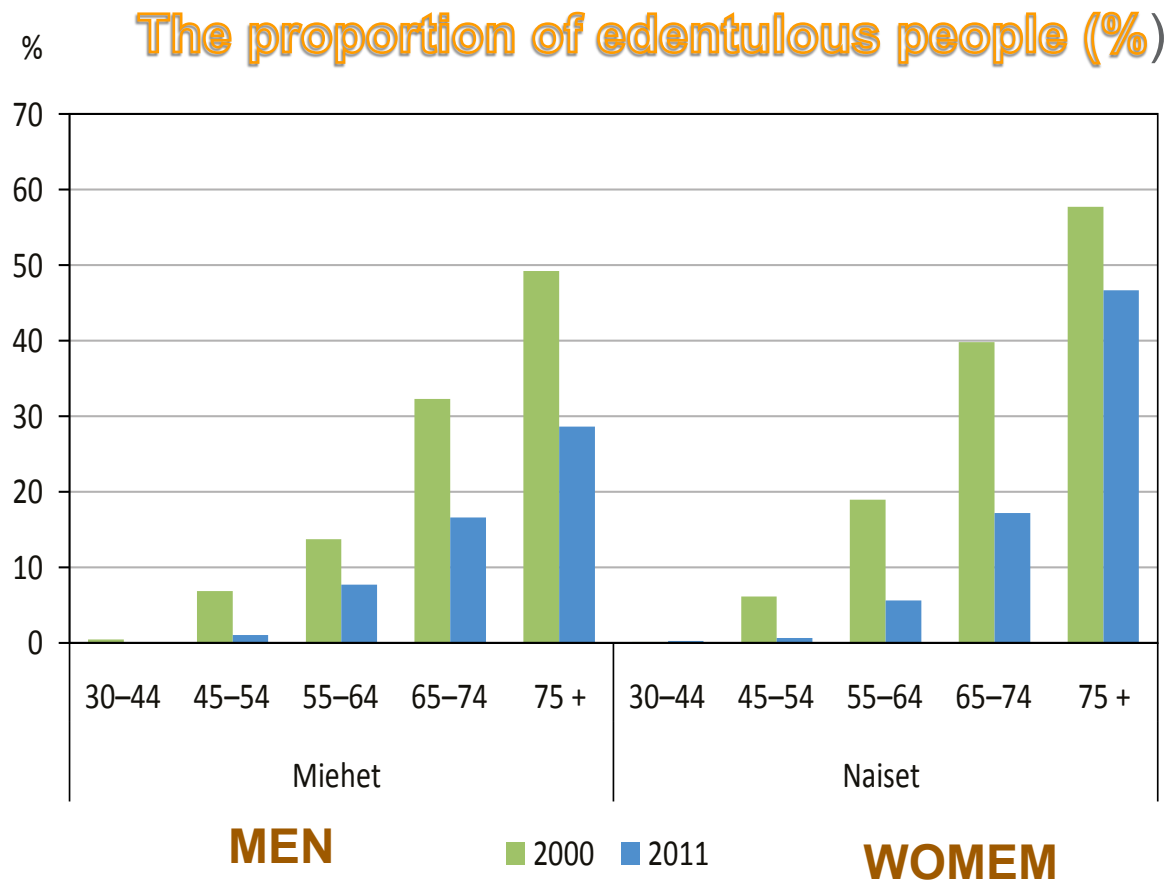
Edentulousness has clearly become less common in Finland

□ The proportion of dentate persons increases rapidly

- Removal of teeth has been rare in the 2000s
- 30 % of men and 47 % of women aged 75 are totally edentulous

(Health 2011 follow-up study)

Kuvio 8.5.3. Haastattelussa ilmoitetun hampaattomuuden yleisyys (%) vuosina 2000 ja 2011.

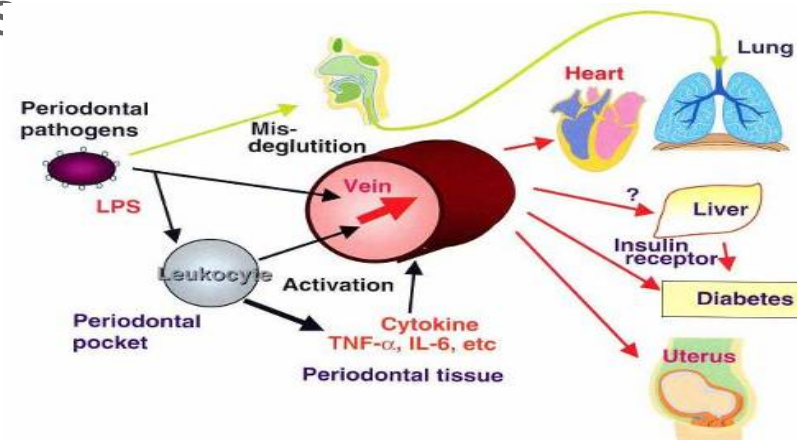


Oral health has been indicated to be integrally linked with the nutrition and functional capacity of older people

- Bacteria and inflammation transmitters reach blood circulation via ulcerous infected gum tissue or mucous membrane

Poor oral health and infections are risk factors of e.g.

1. cardiovascular diseases
2. diabetes
3. lung diseases



- They hamper
 - a. recovery after trauma treatments
 - b. medication of trauma treatments

Risk factors of dental and oral diseases

□ The risk factors include e.g.

1. Inadequate self-care
2. Decreased salivation (medicines)
3. A high sugar diet (snacks)
4. Certain underlying diseases (e.g. diabetes, rheumatic diseases and memory diseases)
5. Smoking

□ The risk factors should be explored

A service and care plan is needed

- The **oral health** of the older population must be taken into account **in supporting the wellbeing, health, functional capacity and independent living** of the population
- and
- **in the provision and development of services** needed by older people.

Anne Nordblad



Joint service

- Oral care should be a part of all services