

Oral Health, the missing link in a Refugee Health Right: Content analysis of refugee health frameworks

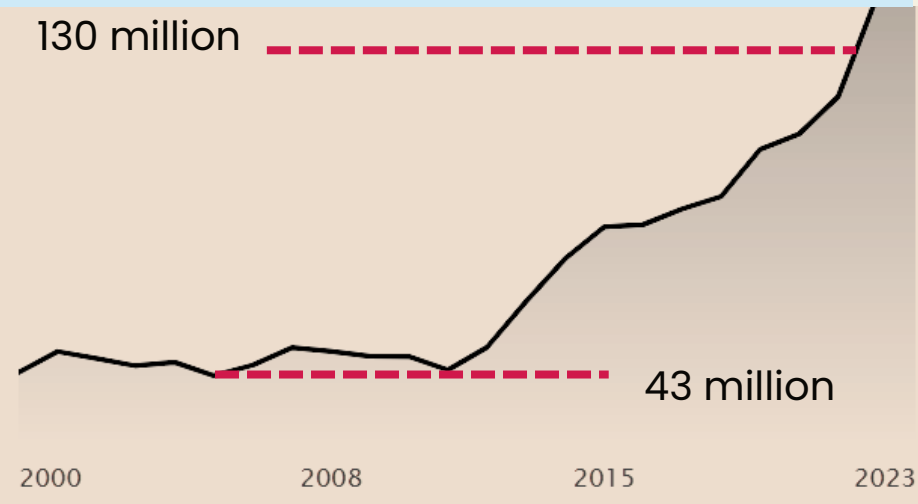
Hyewon Lee¹, Noah Choi¹, Yelim Jung¹, Ian Jung¹, Dale Kim¹, Sol Kim¹, Elham Kateeb²

¹ Seoul National University Global Maternal and Child Oral Health Center, ² Al-Quds University

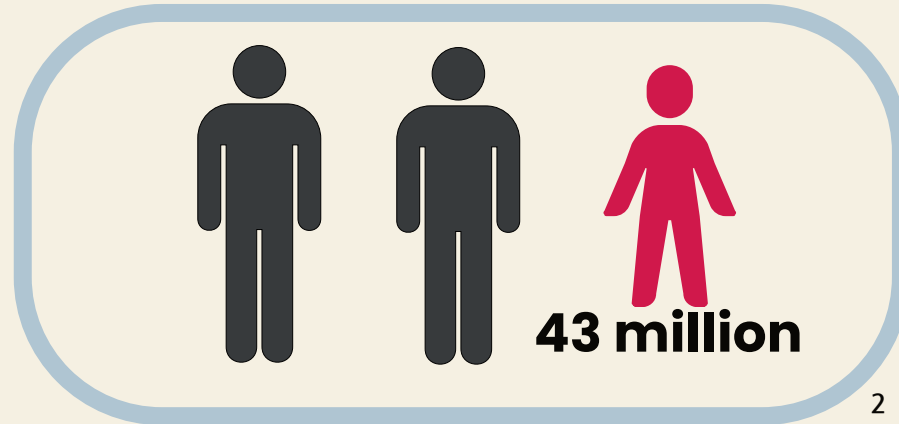


REFUGEE STATISTICS

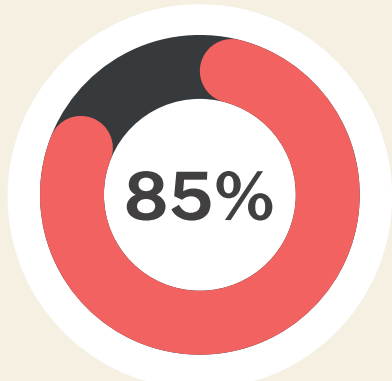
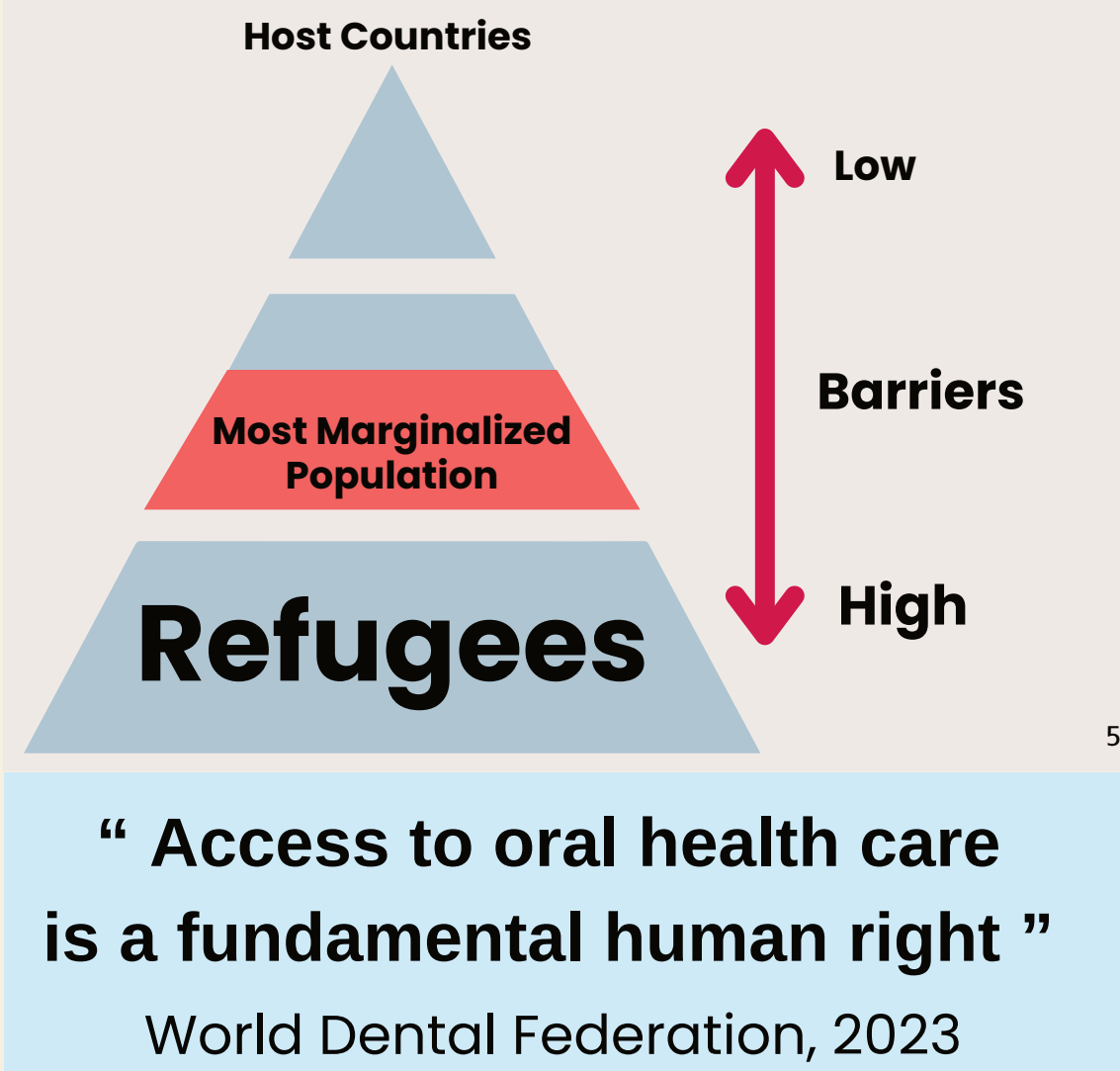
Increasing Number of Forcibly Displaced People



1 OUT OF 3 forcibly displaced people are **children**
130 million



REFUGEES EXPERIENCE GREATER BARRIERS TO ORAL HEALTH ACCESS THAN THE MOST MARGINALIZED POPULATION OF HOST COUNTRIES



85% Of Refugees **HAD UNTREATED DECAY**

According to WHO, **ORAL HEALTH IS ONE OF...**

- The Most **Expensive**
 - The Most **Prevalent**
 - The Most **Neglected**
- Diseases in the world

Framework Analysis

Methodology

- Data sources: 9 major international organizations**
Grey literature with a search term “International Organization for refugee.” The list of organizations was revised by refugee subject matter experts
- Analysis: Analyzed the health strategies (Table 1)**
Using keywords including “health,” “refugee,” “migrant,” “oral,” “dental,” “dentist.”
- Integration: Identified integration points of oral health into the framework of health strategies for refugee population (Fig 1)**
Integration points include Healthcare workforce, Prioritizing maternal health care and oral disease prevention

Integration Points with Oral Health

Analysis of five health strategies to identify common strategic themes (Stated below)

- Healthcare workforce training & partnerships
- PHC (Primary Health Care) including prevention
- MCH (Maternal & Child Health) with a comprehensive and life-course approach

We recommend the following 5 sectors as the core oral health integration points for refugee healthcare strategies (Fig 1).

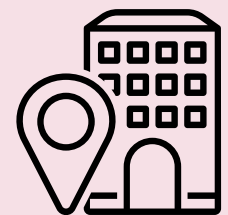
Table 1. Framework analysis	Health Programs				
	Health Strategy	PHC focus	MCH focus	Oral Health	OH program
UNHCR	○	○	○	▲	▲
IRC	○	▲	▲	▲	✗
ICRC	○	○	○	✗	✗
CARE	○	✗	○	✗	✗
IOM	○	✗	✗	✗	✗
Doctors without Borders	Country Specific	▲	✗	✗	✗
World Relief	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
IAFR	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Refugees International	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗

Figure 1. Oral health integration points



Next Steps & Action Items

Listening to people who have come into contact with refugees
Understanding works and strategies of organizations



Visiting UNHCR & DWOB

Posting visual materials summarizing oral health barriers of refugees and our findings/conclusion



Social media advocacy with Instagram

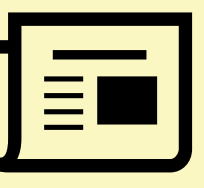


Open Forum SNU

Trading ideas of various topics concerning global health and partnership

Using mass media for dissemination

Partnering with the press to heighten public recognition
Promoting refugee oral health on World Refugee Day (June 20)



References & List of Abbreviations

- List of Abbreviations: UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees), CARE (Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere), IAFR (International Association for Refugees), IRC (International Rescue Committee), IOM (International Organization for Migration), PHC (Primary Health Care), MCH (Maternal/Child Health)
- References: (1) UNHCR. Refugee Data Finder. (2) UNHCR. Global Appeal 2024. (3) Ghahbi E, Matthews DC, Brilliant MS. The oral health status of recent immigrants and refugees in Nova Scotia, Canada. J Immigr Minor Health. 2014 Feb;16(1):95-101. doi: 10.1007/s10993-013-9785-0. PMID: 23718440. (4) WHO. "Oral Health". 2023. (5) WHO MND. WHO ICO. Global oral health status report: towards universal health coverage for oral health by 2030. 2022. (6) Kateeb E, Lee H. Erratum to "Oral Health as a Refugee Health Right". International Dental Journal Volume 73, Issue 5, October 2023, Pages 593-594. Int Dent J. 2024;74(2):1. doi:10.1016/j.identj.2024.01.024. (7) FDI. "Access the new policy brief advocating for improved oral health for refugees". (8) FDI. "Access the new policy brief advocating for improved oral health for refugees".