Understanding oral health beliefs and practices among cantonese-speaking older Australians

Authors: Mariño, R. Minichiello, V. MacEntee, M. I.  | Year: 2010  | Publication type: Journal article  | Peer reviewed:  | Topic area/s: Dental

Reference:
Key Words:
oral health, Chinese, access and use of services

Research aim:
to explore how older immigrants from Hong Kong or Southern China manage their oral health in Melbourne.

Results/Conclusion:
Four major themes relevant to oral health care emerged from the discussion: (i) traditional Chinese health beliefs; (ii) traditional medicine and oral health; (iii) attitudes towards dentists; and (iv) access to oral health-care services. Language, communication and cost of dentistry were identified as major barriers to oral health care.

Implications:
Older Chinese immigrants in Melbourne have concerns about oral health care that are similar to other ethnic groups, they want more oral health-related support from government, and many of them return to China or Hong Kong for dental treatment.

Cultural Group(s):
Chinese, Cantonese

Location of study:
Victoria (Melbourne)

Age group:
55+

Number included in study:
50 people (from 6 focus groups)

Type of participants:
Cantonese speaking aged 55+ living in Melbourne

Research approach:
Qualitative

Type of data:
Primary

Secondary data sources used:

Specific scales or analytical techniques used:

Implications/ Recommendations:

Notes: