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ENC 2135

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### **Annotated Bibliography**

**Alqahtani, A. S., Wyne, A. H., & Alsharif, A. T. (2024).** Facilitating oral healthcare for children with disabilities: Perspectives of parents and dental professionals. *BMC Oral Health*, 24(1), 1–15. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s12903-024-05344-w>

This study discusses the barriers children with disabilities obtain to dental care through various interviews with parents as well as dental professionals. The research examines the main obstacles encountered, stating them as the shortage of dentists who are professionally trained to be able to treat children with disabilities properly, sensory/ behavioral issues during a visit, cost of dental visits, and a physical unattainability to clinics. Improvements listed were increasing training to these professionals, increasing financial support, and making dental facilities well equipped to tailor to a larger accessible community. This source is useful because it gives strong, real opinions that show why receiving proper dental care to the disabled community continues to be a large issue and ways to improve it. This source is credible because it is a peer reviewed article published in BMC Oral Health, a respected medical journal, and the authors are professionals in the dental health

field. This source relates to the other sources because it supports similar barriers and solutions while adding direct perspectives from both parents and dental professionals.

Due to the information provided in this study I would be able to use it in the body section of my essay because it includes real world perspectives that demonstrate how these obstacles are currently happening to many families and healthcare providers involved.

**American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. (2022).** Management of dental patients with special health care needs. *The Reference Manual of Pediatric Dentistry*, 331–339.

<https://www.aapd.org/research/oral-health-policies--recommendations/management-of-dental-patients-with-special-health-care-needs/>

Attached is another peer reviewed source that provides recent practices that have had good results in providing dental care to those patients obtaining disabilities. It includes many of these special needs such as physical, developmental and behavioral disabilities. It states the barriers that are commonly encountered when receiving treatment such as the shortage of specialized training for dental professionals, behavior management procedures, and the need for extra involvement from caregivers. It is credible because it was published by the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry which is a professional institution that uses evidence based directions to provide pediatric dental care. Its relation to other scholarly sources is that it reinforces the desperate need for increased training, as well as widespread changes to create a strong suitable solution for this issue.

In my essay, this source would be utilized as evidence to the solutions portion of it since it offers evidence based recommendations that improve the access and the quality of the care being given to these kids.

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2023)** *Welcome To Zscaler Directory*

*Authentication.* Cdc.gov. <https://www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/conditions/special-needs.html>

This is a recent source that gives an overview of the oral health conditions of children with special needs, it reports how they experience higher rates of cavities, gum diseases, and overall a large amount of unattended or unnoticed dental care needs. It explains the same concepts as the previous sources explaining how there is difficulty in accessing providers, the economic struggles most families face, and the medical intricacy that comes with the issue all together. This source obtains credibility because it was published by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, which is a reliable public health agency that uses research that is evidence based as well as large scale data. It is connected to the rest of the sources due to its reinforcement of the severity in inequality these children face.

I will be using this source in my essay as a way to introduce it since it provides context that is clear and a good way to ease into the scholarly research aspect of the essay.

**da Fonseca, M. A., Casamassimo, P. S., & Seale, N. S. (2009).** Addressing the dental needs of patients with special health care needs. *Journal of the American Dental Association*, 140(9), 1146–1153. [https://jada.ada.org/article/S0002-8177\(14\)64524-4/abstract](https://jada.ada.org/article/S0002-8177(14)64524-4/abstract)

This was a study that focused on dentists and how they handle treating children with special health care needs. The authors talk about problems such as dentists not being properly trained, difficulty managing behavior during visits, and not having enough offices that are able to treat these patients. The study also mentions ways to improve care such as better training and changes in how dental care is provided. This source is useful because it helps show why it is hard for children with disabilities to receive care from the provider side. This source is credible because it is a peer reviewed article published in a professional dentistry journal and written by dental professionals. It connects to the other sources because it supports the same barriers discussed by parents and organizations and helps explain why these issues continue to exist.

I would use this source in order to further express the challenges towards the provider aspect of this issue. It shows how even though awareness is being brought upon this issue many barriers still stand in accessing care.

**NORC at the University of Chicago. (2025) *NORC Study Illuminates Oral Health Challenges for Children with Special Health Care Needs*** Norc.org.

<https://www.norc.org/research/library/norc-study-illuminates-oral-health-challenges-for-children-with-special-health-care-needs.html>

This report presents data that presents how children with special needs typically have a higher rate of dental diseases that are left unnoticed in comparison to children without disabilities. It points out the common factors contributing to this such as lack of proper health insurance, the limited number of dentists who are willing to provide specialized

care as well as how the families are burdened financially. This source also includes many solutions that could be done to fix these issues such as expanding Medicaid coverage and proper training. I will use this source because it provides present day data and clear strategies to increase accessibility which strengthens the argument. This source is credible because it comes from NORC at the University of Chicago, a well known research organization that uses nationally collected data and clearly explains its research methods. This source connects to the first source by reinforcing the same barriers to care, while also showing that these problems still exist on a larger scale today.

Throughout my essay I will utilize this report to demonstrate current national statistics that help in supporting the urgency of the problem at hand.

**Nowak, A. J., & Casamassimo, P. S. (2015).** Access barriers to dental health care in children with disability: A questionnaire study of parents. *Journal of Dentistry for Children*, 82(1), 29–36. <https://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/aapd/jodc/2015/00000082/00000001>

This was a study that surveyed parents of children with disabilities and reported their experiences in receiving dental care for their kids. These parents reported barriers that made it hard for their kids to receive adequate treatment like long wait times, struggling to find qualified providers and clinics. The author proposes possible solutions such as creating specialized clinics geared towards this community. This source may be older but is still relevant towards the topic because it highlights barriers that are still occurring in present day dental care. This source is credible because it is published in a professional dentistry journal and uses direct questionnaire data from parents. This source connects 3 to the

other two by supporting the same issues of access and availability, while showing that these barriers have remained consistent over time.

In my essay I would use this source to emphasize the experiences caregivers have and strengthen the argument that barriers have remained persistent throughout time.